

THE
LONDON MAGAZINE,
ENLARGED AND IMPROVED,
FOR JUNE, 1785.

THE HISTORY OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE SIXTEENTH
PARLIAMENT OF GREAT-BRITAIN.

Begun and holden at Westminster, on the 25th of January, 1785.

AS soon as Lord North had concluded, the Speaker interrupted the debate, by informing the House, that as this was the last day for receiving petitions complaining of undue elections, and as the hour which was generally deemed the conclusion of the day (twelve) was fast approaching, a petition, which he understood an honourable member near had then in his hand, could not be presented, unless the House would consent that the debate should be adjourned for a few minutes. The House consenting, the debate was adjourned for a quarter of an hour: in the mean time a petition was laid upon the table, and read by the clerk, complaining of an undue election for the town of Liverpool: the petitioner was Colonel Tarleton. The 4th of June was fixed for taking it into consideration. After this the question that the debate be resumed, having been put and carried, Mr. Sheridan rose. He said it was not his intention to enter into legal dispute on the present question; and consequently he did not mean to reply to the arguments that had been used by three law authorities, from the highest to the lowest degree; from an actual judge down to a young practising barrister: he said he would, however, take notice of one thing that fell from a learned gentleman, who had modestly called himself a *chicken* in the law (Mr. Taylor). That learned gentleman had promised to vote this night for the original question; for this promise the

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learned gentleman had his thanks; but his gratitude was allayed by a declaration made by the learned member, that as this was the first time he should vote against administration, so it would be the last time he should divide with opposition. The learned gentleman, it would seem, had so clear an insight into futurity, that he was able to pronounce with certainty, that though the minister was as wrong in the present proceeding as he could suppose; so wrong indeed, that notwithstanding his predilection for him, he felt it his duty to oppose him on the present occasion, yet in every future measure of his administration, he must necessarily be in the right. Nothing short of such an insight could justify the declaration he had made. He wished the learned member had shewed himself only a *chicken* this night; but he had gone a great deal farther, and endeavoured to make himself appear endowed with wisdom, whilst those who were in opposition to government were described, in effect, as chickens.

*Tu Gallina filius albæ,
Nos viles pulli nati infelicibus annis;*

the learned member, instead of being a chicken, was a bird of augury, that foretold, what it was to be hoped, would never come to pass. Another learned gentleman (Mr. Bearcroft) had paid a just tribute to the splendid abilities of his right honourable friend (Mr. Fox) and in all that he had said on that head, he was sure the House went unanimously with him: when he

praised him for his candour and manliness, the whole House felt the truth and justice of the panegyric; but the learned gentleman had made a drawback upon it, that seemed totally to undo all that he had said before in compliment to his right honourable friend on the possession of the two qualities of candour and manliness; and he was convinced that the House would not agree with the learned gentleman, in thinking that when his right honourable friend seemed to be most open, most candid, and most manly, he was most to be suspected of concealing, under this exterior, some mischief to the state. His right honourable friend had, as it had been remarked, often appealed to the people, and warned them of their danger; if, as the learned gentleman would insinuate, he had often cried out to them when there was no danger, that he had told them the wolf was among the sheep, when the wolf was not there, still it could not be said that he had ever deceived the people, by saying that the wolf was *not* in the sheepfold, when he was actually devouring them: it was not from the wolf that danger was to be apprehended for the constitution; that animal's attacks were generally open, and consequently less dangerous; it was from the wolf in sheep's cloathing that every thing was to be apprehended; the prowling wolf might be resisted; but the envenomed tooth of the serpent lurking in the grass, would give a sting, when none was expected; and the venom would prey upon the vitals of the constitution. A noble lord (Mulgrave) had not forgot to reproach his right honourable friend with having been an enemy to Mr. Grenville's bill, and having opposed it whilst it was passing through the House of Commons:—he had also reproached the noble lord in the blue ribband on the same head; but yet, in speaking of the latter, he had used an expression that seemed not intended so much for a reproach to the noble lord, as a kind of vindication of himself (Lord Mulgrave) from a reflection thrown out a few days ago by the Chancellor of the Exchequer;

and indeed seldom omitted by the right honourable gentleman, whenever an occasion offered: the noble mover of the amendment had said, after panegyricizing himself for the purity of his conduct in office, that he was not like the noble lord in the blue ribbon, who might have had recourse to sinister or corrupt means, to influence parliament, and support his administration. Mr. Sheridan said, that when he heard this charge brought by the right honourable gentleman, he was filled with astonishment, when he considered that he was sitting in the midst of those who had given the warmest and most zealous support to the noble lord whilst he was in office; and who could not but have felt that they must come in for their share of the disgrace which such a reflection was calculated to throw upon the administration of the noble lord in the blue ribband; for, if the noble lord was ever under the necessity of using corrupt means, he must have had persons on whom he could exercise the principle of corruption, and who of course must have been more infamous than himself. He was therefore astonished when he heard this charge brought a few days ago by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that none of those who sat near had risen up to rescue his own reputation from being implicated in so degrading an accusation. The noble mover of the amendment had, however, thought proper to rise this night to exculpate the noble lord in the blue ribband, and consequently himself, when he said, that in opposing Mr. Grenville's bill the noble lord had used all his influence as a man and a *minister* to have it rejected; by this influence he meant what naturally and personally belonged to the noble lord, from his great abilities, and high character as a statesman. He (Mr. Sheridan) expected therefore, that in future, the minister would be a little more cautious how he charged the noble lord with having had recourse to corrupt means when in power, to support his administration, lest he should give offence to those, who, though now the political enemies of the noble lord in the blue ribband,

ribband, were, when he was in office, his most forward advocates and supporters: to those persons he would leave the task of defending his lordship whenever he should be attacked on the score of corruption; and to the present minister he would leave unenvied, the pleasure and the honour of having for his confidential friends those who were most in the secrets, most in the confidence of, and most in the habits of friendship with one, whom the present minister would represent as a person who governed by corruption; and found as many corrupt friends, as he could have wished for, to stand forth the champions of his administration: if there could be wanting any thing to point out to the young minister how well those persons were deserving of his friendship, countenance, and confidence, it would unquestionably be found in the facility with which they dissolved the ties of amity with the noble lord, and abandoned their benefactor. These new connections would shew how sincere the minister was in the professions he made of his regard to the opinion of the people: he had appealed to them, as he said, by a dissolution of parliament; but did he regard their opinion *now*? If he did, there was not a doubt but he would immediately order the high-bailiff to make his return; for he believed he could not find out of that House a single man of sense or discretion, who was not sick of the scrutiny, and who would not wish that the minister had never embarked in it, or that he were fairly out of it. For his part, he never was able to find a good cause for compelling his right honourable friend to resort to a scrutiny; but he was still more at a loss to find a colourable pretext under which it might be continued. When it was first ordered, it was under the idea that vast numbers had polled for Mr. Fox, who were not in existence; and that the high-bailiff not having been able, or had time to satisfy his conscience, ought not to be forced to make a return, until he should have had time to satisfy his doubts, and remove his scruples. These two reasons had but

little weight with him, when they were urged in the House last year, as the grounds for ordering the high-bailiff to proceed in the scrutiny; but little as that weight was then, it was infinitely less now; for the scrutiny, as far as it had gone as yet, gave the most flat contradiction to all the declamations about men *in nubibus*, men long since dead, Spital-fields weavers, and the like, who were said to have polled for Mr. Fox; and as to the *conscience* of the returning officer, he did not apprehend that the House thought it now of that delicate texture that they believed, or affected to believe it to be made of, in the beginning of the last session of parliament. Of all the duties which could not be performed by proxy, or by deputy, those of conscience were, in his opinion, the most remarkable.—The high-bailiff had alledged last year, that his scruples or conscientious difficulties, were so great and so nice, that he could not be able to make his return, until he should have thoroughly scrutinized the votes upon the poll; and yet no sooner had the House ordered him to go on with the scrutiny, than he absolutely assigned over his conscience to his assessor, and seemed by this expedient to have fairly got rid of his scruples.—A man really under the dominion of scruples, could not in conscience act against them; he must remove them. But the high-bailiff had found out the happy talent of reconciling the most opposite things; for first he had scruples, and he could not in conscience make his return until they should have first been removed; and yet he pronounces judgement, not only whilst his scruples exist, but whilst his own mind tells him that the opinion of his assessor is ill founded. Nothing could be more opposite than that a man from scruples should refuse to admit as good, a vote already on his poll, and yet in compliment to the opinion of another, pronounce the vote to be good, though the scruples are not removed, but are confirmed. Successive keepers of this delicate conscience are appointed, and though their advice is followed by the re-

turning officer, the nice samples of his *tender* conscience remain in full force against the very votes that he allowed; it might be presumed, that finding himself at a loss for assessors and able lawyers, he would at last put his *conscience into commission*, and commit the care of it to three attorneys. This bugbear conscience, of which the House had heard so much before the scrutiny began, was now abandoned even by the high-bailiff himself; for it had been given in evidence by himself at the bar, that in carrying on the scrutiny at present, he conceived himself to be acting in obedience to the House; and that if he should receive the order of the House to make his return then, he was ready to do it.—Where then was conscience? Though it told him last May, that he could not make his return, yet it had been silenced since; and an order of the House would shew that conscience should oppose no obstacle to his making a return. Now, for his own part, he much questioned the power of the House over his conscience; for if the House had no discretionary power at first to force the man to return the representatives of Westminster, whilst the bailiff's conscience should remain unsatisfied, he did not see how the House could compel him to do it these three years to come, if he should be pleased for so long a time to say that he laboured under scruples, which it would require still more time to silence or remove.

Unable as we are for want of room to follow the honourable member through all his ingenious arguments, urged in one of the best speeches we have heard for a long time in parliament, we shall conclude with a few observations made by him to Mr. Pitt. The minister, he said, had declared himself a friend to parliamentary reform, and he for one believed him to be sincere in his professions on that head; but he should take care how he gave the public grounds for suspecting him of insincerity, and surely the prosecution of the scrutiny would afford the most reasonable grounds for suspicion on that head. For my part, said

Mr. Sheridan, I speak not now as a party man; if I had no other views than those of saving my right honourable friend, by destroying the popularity of the right honourable gentleman over the way, I would say, *Long live the scrutiny!* as every hour it lasted would see the gradual defection of his friends: when walking through the streets of this insulted city, the electors would point to him, and say, There goes the minister, who, whilst he is going to increase the number of voters, and of his bounty to add an hundred members to the knights of the shire, is disfranchising this great city.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that little as was his experience, both as a man and a minister, it was sufficient to teach him to be on his guard, and not to indulge those who by working upon his passions, endeavoured to rouse him to anger or resentment, in hopes that they might take advantage of what he might drop in the heat of argument and warmth of resentment: he knew with what views gentlemen acted on the other side, and he was resolved to disappoint them, by preserving his temper, and taking no notice of those observations that were intended to disturb it. He should also, he said, avoid all personalities, and by keeping close to the question before the House, shun the bad example of those who had gone before him, and who did not seem to know what was the question. In order to speak to it with effect, he would first throw out of it all that did not really belong to it; and first, the *legality* of the scrutiny; that was a point upon which the House had decided last session; the point of law had at that time, and since, been ably argued by some of the most able men in the profession; and he had not yet heard a single argument in reply, that could overturn the authorities that had been given in support of the opinion; "that the ordering the scrutiny, and proceeding in it after the expiration of the time specified in the writ, commonly called the *exigency* of it, was not only not contrary to law, but was perfectly consistent with it." He would not therefore

fore endeavour to defend what had not been attacked; or dwell upon a point that had long since been determined. The scrutiny, it was true, had hitherto made but a slow progress; but as the causes of it were now known, they might be removed; and he trusted that the amendment proposed by his noble friend would tend greatly to accelerate it. One great cause of delay was the indisposition of the high-bailiff's late assessor. In speaking of Mr. Hargrave, he said, he believed a more profound lawyer, a man of greater erudition, or of more indefatigable industry, was not to be found in Westminster; and yet with all his abilities, he was, perhaps, the least qualified in England to assist in carrying on a scrutiny: examining every thing with a scrupulous nicety, he himself threw difficulties in his own way, by puzzling and perplexing himself with distinctions and refinements, by no means calculated to prevent delay; on the contrary, tending to create it: the very assessor himself then was a cause of the slow progress of the scrutiny, and as he was removed, it was to be presumed that it would proceed in future with much greater dispatch. Another cause of delay was, that the high-bailiff had imagined hitherto that he could not make any new regulation in the mode of proceeding without the consent of both parties: the amendment moved by his noble friend would, if carried, inform him that he was fully competent without the consent of the parties, to make any regulation which he should in his judgement and conscience think calculated to produce dispatch, without doing any injury to the different candidates. Notwithstanding the tediousness of the proceedings of the scrutiny hitherto, much business had been done, and the great numbers of votes that had been disqualified, no matter on which side, afforded the strongest proofs of the justice and propriety of the doubts and scruples that had been entertained by the high-bailiff, respecting the legality of many hundred persons who had polled, and of the necessity of a scrutiny. He then launched out into personal charges against

Mr. Fox, stating, that he himself was one great cause, that the scrutiny had not made greater progress; for he had avoided or delayed as much as possible, an enquiry into the votes given in the united parishes of St. John's and St. Margaret's, where Sir Cecil Wray had always declared that he believed he should be able to disqualify so many persons who had voted, and to strike off so many votes given in the names of persons not in existence, as would leave him a majority upon the gross poll. But the right honourable gentleman had refused to begin the scrutiny in St. John's and St. Margaret's, most probable because he knew how vulnerable he was there; and consequently it was his interest to protract the scrutiny in those places where he knew he had least to lose. He did not mean to say but that Sir Cecil Wray would probably be as averse, after he should have gained a majority in St. John's and St. Margaret's, from going to any other parish where he might apprehend himself as vulnerable as his antagonist was in there. But still he thought the scrutiny ought not to be discontinued: whilst it was asserted that the names of persons not in existence, were to be found on the poll, the grounds of such an assertion ought to be minutely examined: a noble duke (Richmond) was of opinion, and a very extravagant one he thought it, that every man who walks about ought to enjoy the franchise of a vote; but if reports were true, the Westminster election exhibited refinements upon this system; for persons had been permitted to poll at it, who either never had been born, or had long since been dead.—We must apologize here, as well as in former speeches, that we cannot do not justice to the minister: had he risen earlier in the debate, we should undoubtedly have reported his arguments more at large, and with more energy.

Mr. Wyndham observed, that though it was seemingly the object of the minister and his friends to relieve the high-bailiff from as much care and trouble as possible, yet the very direct consequence of the scrutiny, and of the

the instructions proposed to be given this night to him, would actually raise new difficulties, and increase his embarrassments. Had he been directed in the first instance to take some time to consider and examine his poll, he might by private enquiries satisfy his conscience, and then make his return; but the House having ordered him to proceed in the scrutiny, imposed a new task upon him; and though, before the scrutiny had been approved of by the House, the bailiff might have made his return, when he had satisfied his conscience; yet the scrutiny having been once commenced, he must not satisfy his conscience only, but also his judgement; so that as he could not satisfy his judgement, without scrutinizing his poll; so whilst there remained a vote unscrutinised, he could not make his return. It was clear, therefore, that the House itself, in seeming to promote expedition, had actually thrown additional obstacles in the way, and created unnecessary delay; for though it would have been sufficient for the bailiff to have satisfied his conscience at the outset, he must now satisfy both his conscience and his judgement. An expression had dropped from the minister, which he thought very alarming indeed; it contained a doctrine likely to be the prolific parent of numberless inconveniences and mischiefs. It seemed, according to the right honourable gentleman, that the circumstance of there being bad votes on the poll of a candidate, was a good ground for a scrutiny; if this was the case, there was not an election for any county or populous city in the kingdom, which ought not to be the subject of a scrutiny, for he was sure there was not an election for any such places, during which persons had not been permitted on both sides to poll, without any legal qualification for the exercise of such a franchise.—At Norwich, where he had the honour to have been elected, he was very sure many bad votes had been given both to him and to the rival candidate; and if the number of such voters, admitted to poll at Norwich, was less than the number of the

like voters who had polled in Westminster, it was because the gross number of the inhabitants was less in the former than in the latter. But there was another expression which alarmed him still more; and that was, “that it mattered not on which side the bad votes had been polled, if bad votes had been received.” This was a good ground for demanding a scrutiny; this was an alarming doctrine indeed; for if it was once received as sound and parliamentary, the legal representatives of every populous town in England might be kept out of parliament for years together, by the most infamous combination between a minister and profligate tools in the shape of candidates, who having contrived to get some bad votes on the poll even for themselves, might then demand a scrutiny, which might be carried on for years, though a decided majority of legal votes should be on the side of the candidate, against whom a scrutiny should have been granted. For these different reasons he declared his intention to withstand the introduction of such fatal doctrines; to resist the amendment moved by the noble lord, and support, with his vote, the original motion made by the right honourable gentleman (Mr. Ellis.)

Mr. Fox observed, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had very dogmatically declared, that every one who went before him had spoken to every thing, but to the question really before the House: he would not dispute the right honourable gentleman’s splendid abilities; he never did it; he never would do it: indeed it would be absurd in him to dispute what he himself had always acknowledged, what the whole House admired; indeed it would be no less absurd than to dispute the right honourable gentleman’s confidence in those abilities. The right honourable gentleman set out with saying, that he was too much upon his guard to suffer himself to be betrayed by any temptation to use personal asperity to any one: he wished that his protestations and his observations upon other men, had been a little less at variance; for he was sure every

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every one who had heard the right honourable gentleman's remarks upon Mr. Hargrave, would think that he absolutely forgot his resolution not to use asperity towards any man: for his own part, he would say, that he had never heard a more unmerited attack upon any one. That gentleman had been praised as being one of the most learned, the most able, the most indefatigable and laborious persons of his profession; but it would seem as if ability, learning, and diligence were not the requisites for an assessor; for the House had been told that other persons would be found much better qualified for the office; their qualifications not being founded on equality of professional knowledge, learning, and industry with Mr. Hargrave, people would be apt to enquire in what these qualifications might consist. In his opinion integrity was one of the most necessary in a judge; and he was sure that Mr. Hargrave possessed it in an eminent degree; he believed also that Mr. Murphy was a man of integrity; but who could tell that he would long continue in his present office? And what a lesson would the minister's speech of this day be to his successor in advising the high-bailiff! Would it not say to him in plain terms, one assessor of inflexible integrity has been removed; his situation had been previously rendered so disagreeable to him, that he could not, consistent with his own dignity, remain any longer in his office; and, to crown all, having resigned, was held up in an odious or ridiculous light by the minister. Was not this as much as to say, if an assessor shall presume to think for himself, he shall be publicly ridiculed, reviled, reprimanded; whilst, on the other hand, the courtly, the complaisant assessor, who may come hereafter, may learn the way to gain the favour, the countenance, and the smiles of the minister—no trifling considerations with men who must look up to government for advancement or promotion in their profession. Mr. Hargrave was charged by the right honourable gentleman with having been himself very instrumental in causing the delay

of which there had been such complaint; he would ask, if since Mr. Murphy had taken his place, the scrutiny had been conducted with greater dispatch? the contrary was notoriously the truth. The right honourable gentleman could free the high-bailiff from the supposed necessity by which he thought himself bound to make no new regulation that should not meet with the approbation and concurrence of both parties. Now he would be bound to say, that the most effectual way to procure dispatch, would be to induce the parties mutually to agree to regulations; and in this Mr. Hargrave was extremely useful, as from the conciliating disposition of that gentleman, both parties had often been induced to concur in resolutions, to which they previously had entertained strong objections, but which they were persuaded to relinquish, by the engaging and soothing manners of Mr. Hargrave. It had been said last year, and had been repeated that night, that *non entities* had been admitted to poll; and that the supposed or ostensible inhabitants, if the expression might be used, of persons not in existence, had been stated to be principally in St. John's and St. Margaret's. To the first part of this he would reply, that they must be credulous indeed, who could suffer themselves to be led away with the idea, that puppets or figures stuffed with straw had been produced and admitted to poll at the hustings; for without this, their idea of *non entities* polling was nonsense, for it must be supposed that for every name set down in the poll books, some *entity* had actually appeared at the hustings. Now he thought it might be very easy to account for the notion that had got abroad relative to *non entities* having been polled. When a great many persons were assembled at once to vote, more than one at a time might give in their names and places of abode; and in the confusion, the name of the voter might have been set down right, but the habitation of one might be set down in the books as if it was that of another; and therefore when enquiries were made for Peter in a street, of which

which by mistake he was in the poll books set down as an inhabitant, and was not found there, it was the fashion of the day to call him a *non entity*; but it by no means followed that he had not a good vote, because by a mistake he was set down as an inhabitant of one street, when he really kept a house in another: and indeed this was not an imaginary case, for it had actually happened; and a vote was struck off from the poll, because he could not be found in the street set opposite to his name in the book; and yet he made it appear to the satisfaction of the high-bailiff himself, that he had as good a vote as any in Westminster. As to the idea of his having polled hundreds of bad votes for St. John's and St. Margaret's, the probability was against it; for it was much more likely that he should mix bad with good votes, and intersperse them through different parishes, than poll them all for one; because in adopting the latter expedient, he should be more likely to awake suspicion, than if he had followed the former. For his part, he did not believe that his antagonist would have much more cause to triumph in St. John's and St. Margaret's, than in St. Martin's; where he boasted that several hundreds of *non entities*, or Spitalfields weavers, had been admitted to vote. Hitherto *his* disqualified votes had been equal to about *five* per cent. while those of his antagonist amounted to at least *seven* per cent. but had this been precisely reversed, still he might have lost to the same proportion in every parish yet unscrutinized; and have, at the conclusion of the whole, a majority of one hundred.

Having premised thus much, he begged leave to say something upon the law of the question, and he hoped he should not leave the right honourable gentleman at liberty to say with truth, when he should have concluded, that the legality of the scrutiny stood unimpeached. What he had to say was reducible to the following heads: Statute law—the practice of parliament—and the reason of the thing. He concluded then first, that by statute, the writ was returnable on the day speci-

fied in it; and this would appear clearly from an act of Henry 6th, by which an action of debt was given to a person aggrieved by any return: the act provided, that such action, however, should be brought within three months after the meeting of parliament. Our ancestors who formed that act, must have looked upon the meeting of parliament, and the return of the writ, as convertible propositions; or it would have been absurd in them to give a man an action, which could be so easily defeated, if the practice introduced by the present parliament, had prevailed in the days of Henry the Sixth, for the sheriff not making any return till *three months*, or as it might be in the present case, *three years* after the meeting, no action could be brought against him, because by law it must be brought within three months after the meeting, or not at all. The next statute he would mention, was that of William the Third, which made it absolutely necessary that the sheriff should make his return on or before the day of meeting. In this surely was virtually included every inferior returning officer, who by making their returns to the sheriff, must enable him to obey his writ, and transmit it to the Crown-office in due time, before the opening of the session. It had been said by a learned judge (the Master of the Rolls) that a writ for the election of a burgess during the sitting of parliament was not made returnable within any limited time. The difference between that and the present case was very striking; the King was supposed to know best when a new parliament ought to meet, and therefore he summoned it to meet on the day which appears to him most proper; and it is necessary that the Commons should be fully represented before parliament proceeds to make laws: but it was different with respect to a vacancy made by death in a House of Commons already sitting; for, the same reason for dispatch not prevailing, the act of William III. requires only that the return shall be made within fourteen days after the election. But by the new mode lately introduced, a scrutiny may

may be demanded or ordered, and as it is the continuation of the poll or election, the actual close of the poll not being deemed a conclusion of the election, the precept may be held even for years by the returning officer, notwithstanding the act of William III. He next maintained, that a scrutiny, protracted beyond the exigence of the writ, was contrary to the uniform and invariable practice of parliament. In the great Oxfordshire election, the sheriff granted a scrutiny, which lasted till the day before his writ was returnable, and then closed it, contrary to the wishes and entreaties of the parties that had demanded it: he then returned all the four candidates: the House was not angry with the sheriff, on the contrary it sat from day to day, to determine who ought to have been returned as the fitting members, and pronounced in favour of Parker and Turner, and against Dashwood and Wenman.

Lastly, he said it was contrary to the reason of the thing: for if it was left in the power of returning officers to protract the return as they pleased (and who could find fault with or punish them, when they declared inexorable conscience to be the cause of the delay?) a packed parliament might meet for shameful purposes, the members of Old Sarum, Midhurst, Thirsk, Knareborough, and the like, would take their seats, whilst the representatives of Westminster, Liverpool, Bristol, Newcastle, and every populous place were not yet elected!

A scrutiny in itself was not a measure into which a returning officer was bound to go, except in the city of London, where a provision was made for it by a special act of parliament; if he was, why was not the sheriff of Bedfordshire punished by the House for refusing it; why did not the House call to account the returning officers of Southwark, Lancaster, &c. who had also refused to grant a scrutiny?—And here he begged leave to remark, that the doctrine broached by the right honourable gentleman, “that let the bad votes be on which side they might, a scrutiny ought to be granted,” was

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truly dangerous; for in cases where the majorities were very small, as in Bedfordshire, where it was only of one, and in Southwark where it consisted of eleven, &c. &c. a scrutiny demanded by the person who had the minority, and granted, would keep the legal members out of their seats, the electors unrepresented, and leave the members of decayed boroughs to transact the business, for which such a parliament might have been packed.—He had not a doubt then, that as this scrutiny was contrary to statute law, to the practice of the House of Commons immemorially, and to the reason of the thing, the only object that the minister could have in view, was to harass and persecute an individual, whom he had honoured, by distinguishing him from among a number of others, to make the victim of his resentment. He had always wished to stand well with the right honourable gentleman; he remembered the day he had first congratulated the House on the acquisition of his abilities; it had been his pride to fight side by side with him the battles of the constitution, little thinking that he would one day desert his principles, and lend himself to be the instrument of that secret influence, which they had both combated so successfully. He might have been prepared to find a formidable rival in the right honourable gentleman; a rival that would leave him far behind him in the pursuit of glory; but he never could have expected that he would have descended so low as to be the persecutor of any man. “I fancied I saw (said Mr. Fox) so much generosity of soul, so much elevation of mind, that so groveling a passion could not have found an asylum in his breast. If he thinks that it is merely for a seat in parliament that I am contending, he knows me not; but I was willing to take the hard task of stemming the tide of misrepresentation, that had artfully and studiously been disseminated through the kingdom: I was desirous that the citizens of Westminster, to whom my public measures were best known, who knew even my private foibles, as I had been bred, and had always

always lived among them, should pass judgement on my political conduct, and proud I am of the issue, which has taught the more distant parts of the kingdom that they were misled." As to the election for Kirkwall, it was owing, he said, to an accident; and he declared, upon his honour, that after he had heard the greatest ornaments of this country had been sacrificed to the popular prejudices, when he heard that Lord John Cavendish had been thrown out by the citizens of York, that General Conway and Mr. Coke had lost their elections, he was sorry that by an election for any other place than Westminster, he had been robbed of the glory of suffering in such company. He saw plainly, he said, that it was a pecuniary contest, and that his friends were to be tired out by expences: the scrutiny on both sides could not cost less than 30,000*l.* a year; this was enough to shake the best fortunes: his own last shilling might be easily got at, as he was poor; but still, little as he had, he would spend to the last shilling: if, in the end, he should lose his election, it would not be, he well knew, for want of a legal majority, but for want of money; and thus would he perhaps be deprived of his right, and the electors of Westminster of the man of their choice, because he was not able to carry on a pecuniary contest with the Treasury.

Mr. H. Dundas replied to Mr. Fox, going into an elaborate discussion of all the arguments which had been so ably adduced by that speaker. After remarking on the legal points in debate, he adverted to the right honourable gentleman's connection with the

citizens of Westminster, whom he treated on this occasion with no small freedom.

Mr. Fox rose in defence of his fellow-citizens, and said he never would sit patiently and hear them, directly or indirectly, charged with being the instruments of sedition, without vindicating, to the utmost of his abilities, their character so indecently aspersed.

Mr. Dundas explained. Mr. Le Mesurier and Mr. Martin then said a few words, after which the question being loudly called for, the House divided on Lord Mulgrave's amendment upon the original motion; when the numbers were

For the amendment	174
Against it	135*

Majority	39
----------	----

The House being resumed, the High-Bailiff of Westminster was called to the bar, and informed by the Speaker of the resolutions then entered into by the House, tending to direct his future proceedings in the conduct of the scrutiny, which were a mere transcript of the amendment; and a copy thereof was directed to be given him. The high-bailiff having withdrawn, Colonel Fitzpatrick rose and apprized the House, as the decision of the House had been contrary to his expectations and those of the electors of Westminster, whose petition then lay on their table, that he should, agreeable to the usage of the House, present another petition from the said electors, in the course of a few days, praying to be heard by counsel in defence thereof. After which the House broke up at six o'clock on Thursday morning.

* Mr. Fox, on motives of delicacy, did not divide upon the question.

BIOGRAPHY.

JOHNSONIANA.

LETTERS RELATIVE TO DR. JOHNSON.

(Continued from page 348.)

LETTER XIII.

MONDAY, December 13, 1784, closed the remarkably affectionate suspense of the public, during his

long and painful illness, by the removal of Dr. Samuel Johnson; who was born at Lichfield in September 1709.

A splendid

A splendid series of almost fifty years, devoted to the literature of his native country, with unparalleled elegance and success, renders all praise superfluous; and will, perhaps, perpetuate the language he was thus destined to exalt.

His observation, in 1775, on losing the author he so long loved, we must now appropriate to himself, with exquisite propriety and regret. "This man has left a gap in our world, which, to supply, we must for ever look round in vain."

If, in his convivial or private conversation, any individuals, that enjoyed it, became not wiser or better, the fault was entirely their own. Impurity or infidelity never escaped his lips; and generally found severe reprehension, when obtruded by others, during "that feast of reason and that flow of soul."

Dr. Johnson rejoiced to share his present property, be it little or be it much, with every child of distress that sought his door; becoming literally "eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame."

Bred in the ecclesiastical discipline, and politics, which distinguished the royalists in the last century, he never abandoned them.

Fearing God as a man, and loving him as a Christian, perfectly equal to his former self in the most solemn moments of his declining life, he met death at last with dignity and comfort; not only knowing, but declaring "in whom he trusted."

Of his descent Samuel Johnson had no cause to be ashamed; and, for the only partner of his life and fortune, of whom he had been deprived thirty years, an epitaph inscribed on a black marble grave stone in Bromley church, Kent, can best relate her merit, and his affection*:

Hic conduntur reliquiae
ELIZABETHÆ

Antiqua JARVISIORUM gente,
Pearlingæ, apud Leicestrenses, ortæ;
Formosæ, cultæ, ingeniosæ, piæ;

Uxoris, primis nuptiis, HENRICI PORTER,
secundis, SAMUELIS JOHNSON,

Qui multum amatam, diuque desietam,
Hoc lapide contextit.
Obiit Londini, mense Mart.
A. D. MDCCCLIII.

On the Monday after his decease he was interred in Westminster-Abbey. The corpse was brought from his house in Bolt-court to the hearse, preceded by the Rev. Mr. Butt and the Rev. Mr. Strahan, about twelve o'clock. The following was the order of the procession:

Hearse and six.

The executors, viz. Sir Joshua Reynolds, Sir John Hawkins, and William Scott, LL. D. in a coach and four.

Eight coaches and four, containing the Literary Club, and others of the Doctor's friends, invited by the executors; viz. Dr. Burney, Mr. Malone, Mr. Steevens, the Rev. Mr. Strahan, Mr. Ryland, Mr. Hoole, Dr. Brocklesby, Mr. Cruikshanks, Mr. Nichols, Mr. Low, Mr. Paradise, General Paoli, Count Zenobio, Dr. Butter, Mr. Holder, Mr. Seward, Mr. Metcalf, Mr. Sastres, Mr. Des Moulins, the Rev. Mr. Butt, Dr. Horsley, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Wright, [to whom may be added, Mr. Cooke (who was introduced by Dr. Brocklesby) and the Doctor's faithful servant, Francis Barber.]

Two coaches and four, containing the pall-bearers, viz. Mr. Burke, Mr. Wyndham, Sir Charles Bunbury, Sir Joseph Banks, Mr. Colman, and Mr. Langton.

After these followed two mourning coaches and four, filled with gentlemen who, as volunteers, honoured themselves by attending this funeral. These were the Rev. Mr. Hoole, the Rev. Mr. East, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Mickle, Mr. Sharp, Mr. C. Burney, and Mr. G. Nicol.

Thirteen gentlemens carriages closed the procession, which reached the Abbey a little before one.

The corpse was met at the west door by the prebendaries in residence, to the number of six, in the surplices and doctors hoods; and the officers of the church,

F f 2

* The Doctor, not many days before his death, wrote to Lichfield, desiring that a large stone might be placed over the bodies of his father, mother, and brother; who were buried in St. Michael's (or Green-Hill) church, and hoped it might be done "while he was yet alive."

church, and attendants on the funeral, were then marshalled in the following order:

Two vergers.

The Rev. Mr. Strahan.

The Rev. Mr. Butt.

THE BODY.

Sir Joshua Reynolds,

as chief mourner, and an executor.

Sir John Hawkins and Dr. Scott,
as executors.

The rest two and two.

The body then proceeded to the

south cross, and, in view of the three executors, was deposited by the side of Mr. Garrick, with the feet opposite to the monument of Shakspeare.

The Rev. Dr. Taylor performed the burial office, attended by some gentlemen of the Abbey—but, it must be regretted by all who continue to reverence the hierarchy, that the cathedral service was withheld* from its inviolable friend; and the omission was truly offensive to the audience at large.

LETTER XIV.

DR. JOHNSON'S WILL.

IN the name of God, Amen. I, Samuel Johnson, being in full possession of my faculties, but fearing this night may put an end to my life, do ordain this my last will and testament. I bequeath to God a soul polluted with many sins, but I hope purified by repentance, and I trust redeemed by Jesus Christ. I leave 750*l.* in the hands of Bennet Langton, Esq. 300*l.* in the hands of Mr. Barclay and Mr. Perkins, brewers; 150*l.* in the hands of Dr. Percy, Bishop of Dromore; 1,000*l.* 3 per cent. annuities in the public funds, and 100*l.* now lying by me in ready money; all these beforementioned sums and property I leave, I say, to Sir Joshua Reynolds, Sir John Hawkins, and Doctor William Scott, of Doctors-Commons, in trust for the following uses; that is to say, to pay to the representative of the late William Innys, bookseller, in St. Paul's Church-yard, the sum of 200*l.* to Mrs. White, my female servant, 100*l.* stock in the three per cent. annuities; the rest of the aforesaid sums of money and property, together with my books,

plate, and household furniture, I leave to the beforementioned Sir Joshua Reynolds, Sir John Hawkins, and Doctor William Scott, also in trust, to be applied, after paying my debts, to the use of Francis Barber, my man servant, a negro, in such manner as they shall judge most fit and available to his benefit. And I appoint the aforesaid Sir Joshua Reynolds, Sir John Hawkins, and Doctor William Scott, sole executors of this my last will and testaments, hereby revoking all former wills and testaments whatsoever. In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name, and affix my seal, this 8th day of December, 1784.

SAM. JOHNSON. (L. S.)

Signed, sealed, published, declared, and delivered, by the said testator, as his last will and testament, in the presence of us, the word *two* being first inserted in the opposite page.

GEORGE STRAHAN.

JOHN DES MOULINS.

BY way of codicil to my last will and testament, I Samuel Johnson give, devise, and bequeath, my messuage or tenement,

* How this omission happened, we are unable to account. Perhaps the executors should have asked for it; but at all events it should have been performed. That the fees for opening the ground were paid, was a matter of indispensable necessity; and there can be no doubt, from the liberality of the present Dean and Chapter, but they will be returned, as was offered in the case of Dryden, and was done in that of St. Evremond, who "died (says Atterbury) renouncing the Christian religion: yet the church of Westminster thought fit, in honour to his memory, to give his body room in the Abbey, and allow him to be buried there *gratis*, so far as the chapter were concerned, though he left 800*l.* sterling behind him; which is thought every way an unaccountable piece of management. Sartre buried him roundly, and hoped that his brother would rise to life eternal." See Atterbury's Epistolary Correspondence, Vol. III. p. 111; who adds afterwards, p. 200, "His epitaph, written by Dr. Garth, is to be put up in the Abbey, if the Bishop will suffer it, where St. Evremond is commended for his indifference to religion." How striking the contrast between St. Evremond and Johnson!

tenement, situate at Lichfield, in the county of Stafford, with the appurtenances, in the tenure or occupation of Mrs. Bond, of Lichfield aforesaid, or of Mr. Hinchman, her under-tenant, to my executors, in trust, to sell and dispose of the same; and the money arising from such sale I give and bequeath as follows, viz. to Thomas and Benjamin, the sons of Fisher Johnson, late of Leicester, and ——— Whiting, daughter of Thomas Johnson, late of Coventry, and the grand daughter of the said Thomas Johnson, one full and equal fourth part each; but, in case there shall be more grand daughters than one of the said Thomas Johnson living at the time of my decease, I give and bequeath the part or share of that one to, and equally between, such grand daughters. I give and bequeath to the Rev. Mr. Rogers of Barkley, near Froome, in the county of Somerset, the sum of 100l. requesting him to apply the same towards the maintenance of Elizabeth Henre, a lunatic. I also give and bequeath to my god-children, the son and daughter of Mauritius Low, painter, each of them 100l. of my stock in the three per cent. consolidated annuities, to be applied and disposed of, by and at the discretion of my executors, in the education or settlement in the world of my said legatees. Also, I give and bequeath to Sir John Hawkins, one of my executors, the *Annales Ecclesiastici* of Baronius, and Hollinshed's and Stowe's *Chronicles*, and also an octavo *Common Prayer Book*; to Bennet Langton, Esq. I give and bequeath my *Polyglott Bible*; to Sir Joshua Reynolds my great *French Dictionary*, by Martinere, and my own copy of my folio *English Dictionary* of the last revision; to Doctor William Scott, one of my executors, the *Dictionnaire de Commerce*, and *Lectius's* edition of the *Greek poets*; to Mr. Wyndham, *Poetæ Græci Heroici per Henricum Stephanum*; to the Rev. Mr. Strahan, vicar of Islington, in the county of Middlesex, *Mill's Greek Testament*, *Beza's Greek Testament* by Stephens, all my *Latin Bibles*, and my *Greek Bible* by *Wechelius*; to Dr. Heberden, Dr. Brocklesby,

Dr. Butter, Mr. Cruikshanks the surgeon who attended me, Mr. Holder my apothecary, Gerard Hamilton, Esq. Mrs. Gardiner, of Snow-hill, Mrs. Frances Reynolds, Mr. Hoole, and the Rev. Mr. Hoole his son, each a book at their election, to keep as a token of remembrance. I also give and bequeath to Mr. John Des Moulins 200l. consolidated three per cent. annuities; and to Mr. Sastres, the Italian master, the sum of 5l. to be laid out in books of piety for his own use. And whereas the said Bennet Langton hath agreed, in consideration of the sum of 750l. mentioned in my will to be in his hands, to grant and secure an annuity of 70l. payable during the life of me, and my servant Francis Barber, and the life of the survivor of us, to Mr. George Stubbs, in trust for us; my mind and will is, that, in case of my decease before the said agreement shall be perfected, the said sum 750l. and the bond for securing the said sum, shall go to the said Francis Barber. And I hereby give and bequeath to him the same in lieu of the bequest in his favour contained in my said will. And I hereby empower my said executors to deduct and retain all expences that shall or may be incurred in the execution of my said will, or of this codicil thereto, out of such estate and effects as I shall die possessed of. All the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate and effects, I give and bequeath to my said executors, in trust, for the said Francis Barber, his executors and administrators. Witness my hand and seal, this 9th day of December, 1784.

SAM. JOHNSON. (L. S.)

Signed, sealed, published, declared, and delivered, by the said Samuel Johnson, as and for a codicil to his last will and testament, in the presence of us, who in his presence, and at his request, and also in the presence of each other, have hereto subscribed our names as witnesses.

John Copley.

William Gibson.

Henry Cote.

Proved at London, with a codicil, the 16th day of December, 1784, before the Worshipful George Harris, Doctor

Doctor of Laws, and Surrogate, by the oath of Sir Joshua Reynolds, Knight, Sir John Hawkins, Knight, and William Scott, Doctor of Laws, the executors named in the will, to whom

administration was granted, having been first sworn duly to administer.

Dec. 18, 1784. *Henry Stevens,*
Geo. Goffling, } Deputy
John Grene, } Registers.

LETTER XV.

MEMBERS OF DR. JOHNSON'S CLUB.

SIR,

THE Literary Club mentioned by Mr. Tyers, to have been established by Dr. Johnson, consisted of a select number of his friends, who entered very heartily into the scheme, for the pleasure of enjoying his conversation, and of contributing their quota to the general amusement. For a future letter, perhaps, you may receive the "Rules" which he established; for the present, you have the names of the members, as they are placed in the book, "on the rota of indispensable monthly attendance."

Dr. Johnson, Mr. Barry,

*Dr. Horsley, Mr. Wyatt,
*Dr. Brocklesby, *Mr. Nichols,
Mr. Joddrell, Mr. Poore,
*Mr. Cooke, *Mr. Wyndham,
*Mr. Ryland, *Mr. Cruikshank,
*Mr. Paradise, *Mr. Seward,
*Dr. Barney, Mr. Clarke,†
*Mr. Hoole, Mr. Murphy,
*Mr. Sastres, Mr. Bowles,
Mr. Allen [dead] *Mr. Metcalf,
Hon. Mr. Barrington, Mr. Boswell.

The gentlemen whose names are thus * marked attended the funeral. The others were not invited.

ALDEBARAN.

LETTER XVI.

DR. JOHNSON'S EPITAPHS ON HIS FATHER, MOTHER, AND BROTHER.

H. S. E.

MICHAEL JOHNSON:

Vir impavidus, constans, animosus, periculorum immemor, laborum patientissimus; fiducia Christiana fortis fervidusque; Paterfamilias apprimè strenuus; Bibliopola admodum peritus; mente et libris et negotiis exulta; animo ita firmo, ut, rebus adversis diu conflictatus, nec sibi nec suis defuerit: Lingua sic temperata, ut ei nihil quod aures vel pias vel castas læsisset, aut dolor vel voluptas unquam expresserit.

Natus Cubleizæ in agro Derbieni, anno MDCVII, obiit MDCCXXXI.

Apposita est SARA Conjux, Antiqua FORDORUM gente oriunda; quam domi sedulam, foris paucis notam; nulli molestant, mentis acumine et judicii subtilitate præcellentem; aliis multum, sibi parum indulgentem: Æternitati semper attentam, omne fere Virtutis nomen commendavit.

Nata Nortoniæ Regis, in agro Varvicensi, anno MDCLXIX; obiit MDCCCLIX.

Cum NATHANAELE illorum filio, qui natus MDCCXII, cum vires et animi et corporis multa pollicerentur, anno MDCCXXXVII, vitam brevem pia morte finivit.

LETTER XVII.

THE LITERARY CLUB.

SIR,

I inclose you a list of as many of Dr. Johnson's associates as originally met at the Turk's Head in Gerard-street, Soho; were from thence transplanted to Prince's in Sackville-street,

Piccadilly; and now dine at Baxter's in Dover-street, on almost every Tuesday during the session of parliament. Their names are set down according to the order in which they appear on their

† Now Lord-Mayor.

their books, a circumstance supposed to have been regulated by their seniority in the club. The three first are the only survivors among the original members by whom the rest were chosen. Since Mr. Garrick's funeral this association has been called (what I am told it has never called itself) The Literary Club.

- *Sir Joshua Reynolds,
- *Mr. Burke,
- *Mr. Langton,
Earl of Charlemont,
Bishop of Dromore [Dr. Percy]
- *Sir Charles Bunbury,
Doctor Fordyce,
- *Mr. Colman,
Sir William Jones,
Mr. Boswell,
Sir Robert Chambers,
- *Mr. Steevens,
Right Hon. Charles James Fox,
Earl of Offory,
Mr. Gibbon,
Mr. Adam Smith,
Mr. Vesey,
Bishop of Killaloe [Dr. Barnard]
- Mr. Sheridan, Jun.
- *Sir Joseph Banks,
- *Mr. Windham,
Dean of Ferns [Dr. Marlay]

- Rev. Dr. Joseph Warton,
- Earl Spencer,
- *Dr. Scott,
Bishop of St. Asaph [Dr. Shipley]
- Lord Eliot,
- Rev. Thomas Warton,
- Lord Lucan,
- *Mr. Malone,
- *Mr. Burke, Jun.
Sir William Hamilton,
- Visc. Palmerston,
- *Dr. Burney,
Dr. Warren.

Withdrawn.

Sir John Hawkins.

Dead.

Samuel Dyer,
Christopher Nugent,
Oliver Goldsmith,
Antony Chamier,
Hon. Topham Beauclerk,
David Garrick,
Lord Ashburton,
Samuel Johnson.

This club, consisting of thirty-five members, is said to be full. Those marked with an asterisk attended the remains of Dr. Johnson to Westminster-Abbey.

I am, Sir,
Your most humble servant, &c.

L E T T E R XVIII.

D R. JOHNSON'S CLUB.

S I R,

THE Rules of the Club established by Dr. Johnson at the Essex Head, in imitation of the "perpetual Club" of the Spectator, were these:

"The Club shall consist of four and twenty.

"The meetings shall be on the Monday, Thursday, and Saturday of every week; but in the week before Easter there shall be no meeting.

"Every member is at liberty to introduce a friend once a week, but not oftener.

"Two members shall oblige themselves to attend in their turn every night from 8 to 10, or to procure two to attend in their room.

"Every member present at the Club shall spend at least 6d. and every man who stays away shall forfeit 3d.

"The master of the house shall keep

an account of the absent members; and deliver to the president of the night a list of the forfeits incurred.

"When any member returns after absence, he shall immediately lay down his forfeits; which, if he omits to do, the president shall require.

"There shall be no general reckoning, but every man shall adjust his own expences.

"The night of indispensable attendance will come to every member once a month. Whoever shall for three months together omit to attend himself, or by substitution, nor shall make any apology in the fourth month, shall be considered as having abdicated the Club.

"When a vacancy is to be filled, the name of the candidate, and of the member recommending him, shall stand in

in the club-room three nights. On the fourth he may be chosen by ballot; six members, at least, being present; and two-thirds of the ballot being in his favour; or the majority, should the numbers not be divisible by three.

"The master of the house shall give notice, six days before, to each of those members whose turn of necessary attendance is come.

"The notice may be in these words:

'Sir,

'On the of will be your turn of presiding at the Essex Head. Your company is therefore earnestly requested.'

"One penny shall be left by each member for the waiter."

The Club was first projected in the

winter of 1783; and began to assemble regularly at the beginning of 1784, when the above regulations were agreed on, and prefaced by the following motto:

"To-day deep thoughts with me resolve to drench
"In mirth, which after no repenting draws."

MILTON.

The names you have already printed are those who were members at the time of Dr. Johnson's death, in the order in which they were entered in the book. The three last were introduced in the room of Dr. Scott, who was named, but never attended; of Mr. Tyers, who abdicated the Club, Feb. 1, 1784; and of Mr. Strahan, who followed his example on the 26th of June.

ALDEBARAN.

L E T T E R X I X.

ANECDOTES OF DR. JOHNSON'S EARLY LIFE.

Extracted from a letter to Mr. Nichols.

DEAR SIR,

Litchfield.

MRS. Johnson committed her young Goliath to the care of a poor woman, soon after his birth; and with the milk of his *nursing* mother he imbibed a scrophulous disorder, the effects of which were visible through life. Mrs. Johnson was persuaded to try the *regal-touch*; and (though not a superstitious woman) said, that the hand of her gracious mistress cured her infant. I do not know whether the piece of gold, that was given him by her Majesty, was thought worthy of being preserved by its master.

When about three years old, he was master of a brood of eleven ducks, one of which he had the misfortune to destroy. Immediately after the accident, he came to his mother, and desired she would *write*. "Write—*what* am I to write?"—"Write upon poor Duck."—"Well then, Sam, tell me what to say." The great infant, after shaking his head for a few minutes, thus lisped "in numbers, for the numbers came:"

Here lies good master Duck,
Whom Samuel Johnson tread on,
If 't had liv'd 't had been good luck:
For then there'd been an *odd one*.

Dr. Swinfen, a physician of emi-

nence, lodged with Michael Johnson, and was Sam's godfather.—When the Doctor came to us last summer, he asked me if I remembered a small stone in the body of the cathedral, with this inscription:

Here lies the body of
Mrs. ELIZABETH BLANEY, a stranger.
She departed this life
2d of September, 1694.

and asked in what *condition* the stone was? I said, "I knew it well, but that it was broken in two by the feet of passengers; and added, that, though I had frequently made enquiry, no person could give me the least account of the said Mrs. Blaney." The Doctor said, "In the first place, put down a new and a substantial block of marble, with the same inscription as the old one had; and I will repay you whatever it may cost. Elizabeth Blaney lived at Leek, where my father was an apprentice, and fell in love with him. Upon his removal to Litchfield, she followed him, and took lodgings opposite to his house. Her passion was not unknown, but he had no inclination to return it. It, however, overcame her health; and, when my father

father was told that she was in danger, he went to her, and offered her his hand. She saw death approaching, and declined it. She soon after died, and my father placed the stone I enquired after over her body. Of what family she was, I never could learn."

Some false accounts of the meanness of Michael Johnson's situation in trade have appeared in the public papers. You know that the situation of the house rendered a stall in Lichfield market unnecessary; and to have weekly standings in the neighbouring towns was far from disreputable, considering that booksellers were at that time established only in *principal* places. Mr.

Johnson said, they had the business of all the adjoining places, and were in excellent circumstances, till they undertook to make parchment in a building (now destroyed) near *the great willow*. In this new undertaking nothing prospered; they had no sooner bought a large stock of skins, than a heavy duty was laid upon that article, and from Michael's absence by his many avocations as a bookseller, the parchment business was committed to a faithless servant, and thence they gradually declined into strait circumstances. My grandfather, Hunter, received as much for the education of Johnson, as was paid for the children of *other* tradesmen.

L E T T E R XX.

S I R,

THE following account of Dr. Johnson at Cambridge, in the year 1765, in an extract of a letter from the late Dr. John Sharp, may not be an unacceptable addition to your other anecdotes of that truly great and good man.

Your's, &c.

A. B.

Cambr. Mar. 1, 1765.

As to Johnson, you will be surprised to hear that I have had him in the chair in which I am now writing. He has ascended my aerial citadel. He came down on a Saturday evening, with a Mr. Beauclerk*, who has a friend at Trinity†. Caliban, you may be sure, was not roused from his lair before next day noon, and his breakfast probably kept him till night. I saw nothing of him, nor was he heard of by any one, till Monday afternoon, when I was sent for home to two gentlemen unknown. In conversation I made a strange *faux pas* about Burnaby Greene's poem‡, in which Johnson is drawn at full length. He drank his large potations of tea with me, interrupted by many an indignant contradiction, and many a noble sentiment. He had on a better wig than usual, but one whose curls were not, like Sir Cloudesley's, formed for "eternal

buckle§." Our conversation was chiefly on books, you may be sure. He was much pleased with a small Milton of mine, published in the author's lifetime, and with the Greek epigram on his own effigy, of its being the picture, not of him, but of a bad painter. There are many manuscript stanzas, for aught I know, in Milton's own hand-writing, and several interlined hints and fragments. We were puzzled about one of the sonnets, which we thought was not to be found in Newton's edition, and differed from all the printed ones. But Johnson cried, "No! No!" repeated the whole sonnet instantly, *memoriter*, and shewed it us in Newton's book. After which, he learnedly harangued on sonnet-writing, and its different numbers. He tells me, he will come hither again quickly, and is promised "an habitation in Emanuel College." He went back to town next morning; but, as it began to be known that he was in the University, several persons got into his company the last evening at Trinity, where, about twelve, he began to be very great; stripped poor Mrs. Macanlay to the very skin, then gave her for his toast, and drank her in two bumpers.

J. S.

LOND. MAG. June 1785.

3 G

LETTERS

* The Honourable Topham Beauclerk, no doubt. † Lister. ‡ Q. What poem was this?
§ "Eternal buckle take in Parian stone." POPE.

LETTERS AND PAPERS BY DR. JOHNSON.

LETTER I.

To Mr. NICHOLS.

THE late learned Mr. Swinton of Oxford having one day remarked that one man, meaning, I suppose, no man but himself, could assign all the parts of the Ancient Universal History to their proper authors; at the request of Sir Robert Chambers*, or of myself, gave the account which I now transmit to you in his own hand, being willing that of so great a work the history should be known, and that each writer should receive his due proportion of praise from posterity.

I recommend to you to preserve this scrap of literary intelligence in Mr. Swinton's own hand, or to deposit it in the Museum, that the veracity of this account may never be doubted.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble servant,
Dec. 6, 1784. SAM. JOHNSON.

Mr. S——n.

The History of the Carthaginians.

———— Numidians.

———— Mauritanians.

———— Gætulians.

The History of the Garamantes.

———— Melano Gætulians.

———— Nigritæ.

———— Cyrenaica.

———— Marmarica.

———— The Regio Syrtica.

———— Turks, Tartars, and Moguls.

———— Indians.

———— Chinese.

Dissertation on the Peopling of America.

———— on the Independency of the Arab.

The Cosmogony, and a small part of the history immediately following. By Mr. Sale.

To the Birth of Abraham. Chiefly by Mr. Shelvock.

History of the Jews, Gauls, and Spaniards. By Mr. Pfalmanaazar.

Xenophon's Retreat. By the same.

History of the Persians, and the Constantinopolitan Empire. By Dr. Campbell.

History of the Romans. By Mr. Bower.

LETTER II.

To the Right Honourable Lord THURLOW.

AFTER a long and not inattentive observation of mankind, the generosity of your lordship's offer raises in me not less wonder than gratitude. Bounty so liberally bestowed I should gladly receive, if my condition made it necessary; for to such a mind who would not be proud to own his obligations? But it has pleased God to restore me so great a measure of health, that if I should now appropriate so much of a fortune destined to do good, I could not escape from myself the charge of advancing a false claim. My journey to the Continent, though I once thought it necessary, was never much encouraged by my physicians; and I was very desirous that your lordship should be told of it by Sir Joshua Reynolds, as an event very uncertain; for if I grew

much better I should not be willing, if much worse I should not be able, to migrate. Your lordship was first solicited without my knowledge; but when I was told that you were pleased to honour me with your patronage, I did not expect to hear of a refusal; yet, as I have never *rioted* in imaginary opulence, this cold reception has been scarce a disappointment; and from your lordship's kindness I have received a benefit which only men like you are able to bestow. I shall now live *mihicarior*, with a higher opinion of my own merit.

I am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obliged,

Most grateful,

And most humble servant,

SAMUEL JOHNSON.

LETTER

* Now a judge in India.

LETTER III. *To Mrs. THRALE.*

MADAM,

IF you are already ignominiously married, you are lost beyond redemption—if you are not, permit me one hour's conversation, to convince you that such a marriage must not take place. If after a whole hour's reasoning you should not be convinced, you will still be at liberty to act as you

think proper. I have been extremely ill, and am still ill; but, if you grant me the audience I ask, I will instantly take a post-chaise, and attend you at Bath.—Pray do not refuse this favour to a man, who hath so many years loved and honoured you!

LETTER IV. *To Mr. NICHOLS.*

S I R,

O^r. 10, 1782.

WHILE I am at Brighthelmston, if you have any need of consulting me, Mr. Strahan will do us the favour to transmit our papers under his frank. I have looked often into your "Anecdotes:" and you will hardly thank a lover of literary history for telling you, that he has been informed and grati-

fied*. I wish you would add your own discoveries and intelligence to those of Dr. Rawlinson, and undertake the Supplement to Wood. Think on it.

I am, Sir, your humble servant,
SAM. JOHNSON.

LETTER V. *To the Same.*

S I R,

Jan. 10, 1783.

I Am much obliged by your kind communication of your account of Hinckley†. I knew Mr. Carte as one of the Prebendaries of Lichfield, and for some time Surrogate of the Chancellor. Now I will put you in a way

of shewing me more kindness. I have been confined by illness a long time; and sickness and solitude make tedious evenings. Come sometimes, and see,

Sir, your humble servant,
SAM. JOHNSON.

LETTER VI. *To the Same.*

S I R,

Lichfield, O^r. 20, 1784.

WHEN you were here, you were pleased, as I am told, to think my absence an inconvenience. I should certainly have been very glad to give so skilful a lover of antiquities any information about my native place, of which however I know not much, and have reason to believe that not much is known.

Though I have not given you any amusement, I have received amusement from you. At Ashbourne, where I had very little company, I had the luck to borrow "Mr. Bowyer's Life," a book so full of contemporary history, that a literary man must find some of his old friends. I thought that I could now and then have told you some hints

3 G 2

worth

* In a subsequent letter, dated Oct. 28, Dr. Johnson adds, "I wish, Sir, you could obtain some fuller information of Jortin, Markland, and Thirlby. They were three contemporaries of great eminence." It was in consequence of this request that I drew up the account of Thirlby, which is printed in the Gentleman's Magazine for April 1784, p. 260; which having been shewn to Dr. Johnson in the state of a proof sheet, he added to it nearly half of what is there printed. The Doctor's MS. is now before me, and begins with "What I can tell of Thirlby, I had from those who knew him; I never saw him in my life." The communication concludes with "This is what I can remember." I will take this opportunity of adding, that, on my shewing Dr. Johnson the "Remarks on his Life of Milton," which were published in 8vo. 1780, he wrote on the margin of p. 14, "In the business of Lauder, I was deceived; partly by thinking the man too frantick to be fraudulent. Of this quotation from the [Literary] Magazine ["a poetical scale"] I was not the author. I fancy it was put in after I had quitted that work; for I not only did not write it, but do not remember it." J. N.

† For this work Dr. Johnson had contributed several hints towards the life of Anthony Blackwall, to whom, when very young, he had been some time an usher at Market Bosworth-school. Blackwall died in April 1730, before Johnson was one and twenty. J. N.

worth your notice; and perhaps we may talk a life over. I hope we shall be much together. You must now be to me what you were before, and what dear Mr. Allen was besides. He was taken unexpectedly away, but I think he was a very good man.

I have made little progress in recovery. I am very weak, and very sleepless; but I live on, and hope.

I am, Sir,
Your most humble servant,
SAM. JOHNSON.

LETTER VII.* *To Mr. CAVE.*

SIR,

Nov. 25, 1734.

AS you appear no less sensible than your readers of the defects of your Poetical Article, you will not be displeased, if, in order to the improvement of it, I communicate to you the sentiments of a person, who will undertake on reasonable terms sometimes to fill a column.

His opinion is, that the public would not give you a bad reception, if, beside the current wit of the month, which a critical examination would generally reduce to a narrow compass, you admitted not only poems, inscriptions, &c. never printed before, which he will sometimes supply you with; but likewise short literary dissertations in Latin or English, critical remarks on

authors ancient or modern, forgotten poems that deserve revival, or loose pieces, like Floyer's, worth preserving. By this method your literary article, for so it might be called, will, he thinks, be better recommended to the public, than by low jests, awkward buffoonery, or the dull scurrilities of either party.

If such a correspondence will be agreeable to you, be pleased to inform me in two posts†, what the conditions are on which you shall expect it. Your late offer‡ gives me no reason to distrust your generosity. If you engage in any literary projects besides this paper, I have other designs to impart, if I could be secure from having others

* The next eight letters were preceded by the following address from Mr. Nichols, to the Editor of the Gentleman's Magazine:

"MR. URBAN,

Jan. 4, 1785.

"The early part of Dr. Johnson's literary life is acknowledged to be that which would be most generally curious, and of which it is to be feared the means of information are the most scanty. In some degree to supply this desideratum, I send you eight of his letters, written in that period, to his firm friend and early patron the original projector of the Gentleman's Magazine; and shall be happy if they are the means of bringing forward any similar communications from such of your very early correspondents as have survived their contemporary friend. The Rev. Mr. Moses Browne, the pious writer of Sunday Thoughts; the learned antiquary Paul Gemesse (who still adorns your pages as *T. Row*); the excellent Miss Carter, whom he celebrated in a Greek epigram *To Eliza* §; and some other of your original contributors, may possibly condescend "to fill a column" with their tribute to the memory of an old associate. The propriety of such communications to the periodical work which his own masterly hand so frequently adorned must be obvious.

"One little circumstance, which has no where yet appeared in print, I can relate to you on the best authority. In 1736, Dr. J. had a particular inclination to have been engaged as an assistant to the Rev. Mr. Budworth, then head-master of the Grammar-school at Brewood in Staffordshire, "an excellent person, who possessed every talent of a perfect institutor of youth, in a degree which" [to use the words of one of the brightest ornaments in literature] "has been rarely found in any of that profession since the days of Quintilian." Mr. Budworth, "who was less known in his life-time, from that obscure situation to which the caprice of fortune oft condemns the most accomplished characters, than his highest merit deserved," had been bred under Mr. Blackwell at Market Bosworth, where Johnson was some time an usher; which might naturally lead to the application. Mr. Budworth was certainly no stranger to the learning or abilities of Johnson; as he more than once lamented his having been under the necessity of declining the engagement, from an apprehension that the paralytic affection, under which our great philologist laboured through life, might become the object of imitation or of ridicule, among his pupils. Your's, &c. J. NICHOLS."

† "Answered Dec. 2." E. CAVE.

‡ A prize of fifty pounds for the best poem "on Life, Death, Judgement, Heaven, and Hell." See Gent. Mag. Vol. IV. p. 560. N.

§ See Gent. Mag. Vol. VIII, p. 210. N.

|| See the Dedication to Bp. Hurd's edition of "Horace's Epistles to the Pisos, &c." ed. 1766, p. vii. Some further account of Mr. Budworth, who died in 1745, would be an acceptable communication to the learned world. N.

1785.

reap the advantage of what I should
hint.

Your letter, by being directed to

S. Smith, to be left at the Castle in
Birmingham, Warwickshire, will reach

Your humble servant.

LETTER VIII. *To the Same.*

SIR, *Greenwich, next door to the Golden Heart, Church-street, July 12, 1737.*

HAVING observed in your papers very uncommon offers of encouragement to men of letters, I have chosen, being a stranger in London, to communicate to you the following design, which, I hope, if you join in it, will be of advantage to both of us.

The History of the Council of Trent having been lately translated into French, and published with large Notes by Dr. Le Courayer, the reputation of that book is so much revived in England, that, it is presumed, a new translation of it from the Italian, together with Le Courayer's notes from the French, could not fail of a favourable reception.

If it be answered, that the History is already in English; it must be remembered, that there was the same objection against Le Courayer's undertaking, with this disadvantage, that the

French had a version by one of their best translators, whereas you cannot read three pages of the English History without discovering that the style is capable of great improvements; but whether those improvements are to be expected from this attempt, you must judge from the specimen, which, if you approve the proposal, I shall submit to your examination.

Suppose the merit of the versions equal, we may hope that the addition of the notes will turn the balance in our favour, considering the reputation of the annotator.

Be pleased to favour me with a speedy answer, if you are not willing to engage in this scheme; and appoint me a day to wait upon you, if you are.

I am, Sir, your humble servant,

SAM. JOHNSON.

LETTER IX. *To the Same.*

SIR, *No. 6, Castle-street, Wednesday morning. [No date. 1738.]*

WHEN I took the liberty of writing to you a few days ago, I did not expect a repetition of the same pleasure so soon; for a pleasure I shall always think it to converse in any manner with an ingenious and candid man; but having the inclosed poem in my hands to dispose of for the benefit of the author (of whose abilities I shall say nothing, since I send you his performance) I believed I could not procure more advantageous terms from any person than from you, who have so much distinguished yourself by your generous encouragement of poetry; and whose judgement of that art nothing but your commendation of my trifle* can give me an occasion to call in question. I do not doubt but you will look over this poem with another eye, and reward it in a different manner, from a mercenary bookseller, who counts the lines he is to purchase, and

considers nothing but the bulk. I cannot help taking notice, that, besides what the author may hope for on account of his abilities, he has likewise another claim to your regard, as he lies at present under very disadvantageous circumstances of fortune. I beg therefore that you will favour me with a letter to-morrow, that I may know what you can afford to allow him, that he may either part with it to you, or find out (which I do not expect) some other way more to his satisfaction.

I have only to add, that as I am sensible I have transcribed it very coarsely, which, after having altered it, I was obliged to do, I will, if you please to transmit the sheets from the press, correct it for you; and will take the trouble of altering any stroke of satire which you may dislike.

By exerting on this occasion your usual

* His Ode "Ad Urbanum" probably. N.

usual generosity, you will not only encourage learning, and relieve distress, but (though it be in comparison of the

other motives of very small account) oblige in a very sensible manner,

Sir, your very humble servant,
SAM. JOHNSON*.

LETTER X. *To the Same.*

SIR,

[No date†.]

I waited on you to take the copy to Doddsley's: as I remember the number of lines which it contains, it will be longer than *Eugenio*‡, with the quotations, which must be subjoined at the bottom of the page, part of the beauty of the performance (if any beauty be allowed it) consisting in adapting Juvenal's sentiments to modern facts and persons. It will, with those additions, very conveniently make five sheets. And since the expence will be no more, I shall contentedly insure it,

as I mentioned in my last. If it be not therefore gone to Doddsley's, I beg it may be sent me by the penny-post, that I may have it in the evening. I have composed a Greek epigram to Eliza, and think she ought to be celebrated in as many different languages as Lewis le Grand. Pray send me word when you will begin upon the poem, for it is a long way to walk§. I would leave my epigram, but have not daylight to transcribe it.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

SAM. JOHNSON.

LETTER XI. *To the Same.*

SIR,

[No date.]

I Am extremely obliged by your kind letter, and will not fail to attend you to-morrow with Irene, who looks upon you as one of her best friends.

I was to-day with Mr. Doddsley, who declares very warmly in favour of the paper you sent him, which he desires to have a share in, it being, as he says, *a creditable thing to be concerned in*. I knew not what answer to make till I had consulted you, nor what to demand on the author's part, but am very

willing that, if you please, he should have a part in it, as he will undoubtedly be more diligent to disperse and promote it. If you can send me word to-morrow what I shall say to him, I will settle matters, and bring the poem with me for the press, which, as the town empties, we cannot be too quick with.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

SAM. JOHNSON.

LETTER

* The poem, or satire, mentioned in this and the following letters, must doubtless have been our author's own "London," which was published by R. Doddsley, in May 1738, and is recorded in the *Gent. Mag.* Vol. VIII. p. 269, as "being remarkable for having got to the second edition in the space of a week." N.

† This letter must have been written in April 1738, as appears from an accidental memorandum on the back of it, and from the epigram to Eliza [Miss Carter], which was printed in that month's *Magazine*, p. 210, both in Greek and Latin. The three following letters were also written in 1738. N.

‡ "Eugenio, a Virtuous and Happy Life, inscribed to Mr. Pope," published by Doddsley in April 1737. The author of this poem, a work by no means destitute of public spirit, and which had had the advantage of being corrected by Dean Swift (see the *Supplement* to his Works, Vol. II. fm. 8vo. p. 459) was Mr. Beach, a wine-merchant at Wrexham, in Denbighshire, a man of learning, of great humanity, of an easy fortune, and much respected. He is said by some to have entertained very blameable notions in religion; but this appears rather to be conjecture than a well-established fact. It is certain he was at times grievously afflicted with a terrible disorder in his head, to which his friends ascribed his melancholy exit. On the 17th of May, 1737, in less than a month after the publication of his poem, he cut his throat with such shocking resolution, that it was reported his head was almost severed from his body. This shocking catastrophe is thus mentioned by Abp. Herring (then Bp. of Bangor) in one of his letters to Mr. Duncombe, p. 54. "The verses you sent me are very sensible and touching: and the sentiments in them, I doubt not, exhilarated the blood for some time, and suspended the black execution; but his distemper, it may be said, got the better, and carried him off at last. I would willingly put the best construction upon these melancholy accidents, and thus leave the sufferers to the Father of Mercies." And an "Epilogue to Cato, for the scholars at Wrexham, 1735," shews how much better Mr. Beach could think than act. N.

§ He lived at that time in Castle-street, Cavendish-square. N.

LETTER XII. *To the Same.*

SIR,

Wednesday.

I Did not care to detain your servant while I wrote an answer to your letter, in which you seem to insinuate that I had promised more than I am ready to perform. If I have raised your expectations by any thing that may have escaped my memory, I am sorry; and if you will remind me of it, shall thank you for the favour. If I made fewer alterations than usual in the *Debates**, it was only because there appeared, and still appears to be, less need of alteration. The verses to Lady Firebrace may be had when you please, for you know that such a subject neither deserves much thought, nor requires it.

[To Lady FIREBRACE, at Bury Affizes †.

AT length must Suffolk's beauties shine in vain,
So long renown'd in B——n's deathless strain?
Thy charms at least, fair Firebrace, might inspire
Some zealous bard to wake the sleeping lyre,
For such thy beauteous mind and lovely face,
Thou seem'st at once, bright nymph, a Muse
and Grace.]

The Chinese Stories‡ may be had, folded down, when you please to send, in which I do not recollect that you desired any alterations to be made.

An answer to another query I am

very willing to write, and had consulted with you about it last night if there had been time; for I think it the most proper way of inviting such a correspondence as may be an advantage to the paper, not a load upon it.

As to the Prize Verses, a backwardness to determine their degrees of merit is not peculiar to me. You may, if you please, still have what I can say; but I shall engage with little spirit in an affair, which I shall *hardly* end to my own satisfaction, and *certainly* not to the satisfaction of the parties concerned§.

As to Father Paul||, I have not yet been just to my Proposal, but have met with impediments, which, I hope, are now at an end; and if you find the progress hereafter not such as you have a right to expect, you can easily stimulate a negligent translator.

If any or all of these have contributed to your discontent, I will endeavour to remove it; and desire you to propose the question to which you wish for an answer.

I am, Sir, your humble servant,
SAM. JOHNSON.

LETTER

* Those in the Senate of Lilliput. N.

† The verses are here added from the *Gent. Mag.* Vol. VIII. p. 486.—This lady was Bridget, third daughter of Philip Bacon, Esq. of Ipswich, and relict of Philip Evers, Esq. of that town. She became the second wife of Sir Cordell Firebrace, the last baronet of that name (to whom she brought a fortune of 25,000l.) July 26, 1737. Being again left a widow in 1759, she was a third time married, April 7, 1762, to William Campbell, Esq. uncle to the present Duke of Argyll; and died July 3, 1782. N.

‡ Du Halde's Description of China was then publishing by Mr. Cave in weekly numbers, whence Johnson was to select pieces for the embellishment of the Magazine. See a letter of his, signed Eubulus, Vol. VIII. p. 365. N.

§ The premium of 40l. proposed for the best poem on the Divine Attributes is here alluded to. A former prize of 50l. had been determined in 1736 by three judges (we know not whether Johnson was one) whose decisions were delivered to the public by Dr. Birch. See *Gent. Mag.* Vol. V. p. 726, and Vol. VI. p. 59. Dr. Mortimer, Sec. R. S. was associated with Dr. Birch in declaring the decision. N.

|| The following Advertisement from "The Weekly Miscellany, Oct. 21, 1738," may now be considered as a curiosity. "Just published, Proposals for printing the History of the Council of Trent, translated from the Italian of Father Paul Sarpi; with the Author's Life, and Notes theological, historical, and critical, from the French Edition of Dr. Le Courayer. To which are added, Observations on the History and Notes; and Illustrations from various Authors; both printed and manuscript. By S. Johnson. 1. The work will consist of two hundred sheets, and be two volumes in quarto, printed on good paper and letter. 2. The price will be 18s. each volume, to be paid half a guinea at the time of subscribing, half a guinea at the delivery of the first volume, and the rest at the delivery of the second volume in sheets. 3. Two-pence to be abated for every sheet less than two hundred. It may be had on a large paper, in three volumes, at the price of three guineas; one to be paid at the time of subscribing, another at the delivery of the first, and the rest at the delivery of the other volumes. The work is now in the press, and will be diligently prosecuted. Subscriptions are taken in by Mr. Doddsley in Pall-Mall, Mr. Rivington in St. Paul's Church-yard, by E. Cave at St. John's Gate, and the Translator, No. 6, in Castle-street, by Cavendish-square." N.

LETTER XIII. *To the Same.*

DEAR SIR,

[No date.]

I Am pretty much of your opinion, that the Commentary cannot be prosecuted with any appearance of success; for as the names of the authors concerned are of more weight in the performance than its own intrinsic merit, the public will be soon satisfied with it. And I think the Examen should be pushed forward with the utmost expedition. Thus, "This day, &c. An Examen of Mr. Pope's Essay, &c. containing a succinct Account of the Philosophy of Mr. Leibnitz on the System of the Fatalists, with a Confutation of their Opinions, and an Illustration of the Doctrine of Free-will*;" [with what else you think proper].

It will, above all, be necessary to

take notice, that it is a thing distinct from the Commentary.

I was so far from imagining they stood still†, that I conceived them to have a good deal beforehand, and therefore was less anxious in providing them more. But if ever they stand still on my account, it must doubtless be charged to me; and whatever else shall be reasonable, I shall not oppose; but beg a suspense of judgement till morning, when I must intreat you to send me a dozen proposals, and you shall then have copy to spare.

I am, Sir, your's, *impransus*,

SAM. JOHNSON.

Pray muster up the proposals if you can, or let the boy recall them from the booksellers.

LETTER XIV. *To the Same.*

DEAR SIR,

[No date.]

YOU may remember I have formerly talked with you about a Military Dictionary. The eldest Mr. Macbean, who was with Mr. Chambers, has very good materials for such a work, which I have seen, and will do it at a very low rate. I think the terms of War and Navigation might be comprised with good explanations

in one 8vo Pica, which he is willing to do for twelve shillings a sheet, to be made up a guinea at the second impression. If you think on it, I will wait on you with him.

I am, Sir,

Your humble servant,

SAM. JOHNSON.

Pray lend me Topfel on Animals.

MATHEMATICS.

* This treatise was published, price 2s. in November, 1738, under the title of "An Examination of Mr. Pope's Essay on Man; containing a succinct View of the System of the Fatalists, and a Confutation of their Opinions; with an Illustration of the Doctrine of Free-will, and an Enquiry what View Mr. Pope might have in touching upon the Leibnitzian Philosophy and Fatalism. By Mr. Croufaz, Professor of Philosophy and Mathematicks at Laufanne, &c. Printed for A. Dodd, without Temple Bar, and sold by the Booksellers." See Gent. Mag. Vol. VIII. pp. 608, 664. N.

† Croufaz was a professor of Switzerland, eminent for his Treatise of Logick, and his *Examen de Pyrrhonisme*, and, however little known or regarded here, was no mean antagonist. His mind was one of those in which philosophy and piety are happily united. He was accustomed to argument and disquisition, and perhaps was grown too desirous of detecting faults; but his intentions were always right, his opinions were solid, and his religion pure. His incessant vigilance for the promotion of piety disposed him to look with distrust upon all metaphysical systems of theology, and all schemes of virtue and happiness purely rational; and therefore it was not long before he was persuaded that the positions of Pope, as they terminated for the most part in natural religion, were intended to draw mankind away from revelation, and to represent the whole course of things as a necessary concatenation of indissoluble fatality; and it is undeniable, that in many passages a religious eye may easily discover expressions not very favourable to morals, or to liberty." Dr. JOHNSON.

† The compositors in Mr. Caye's printing-office, who appear by this letter to have then waited for copy. N.

M A T H E M A T I C S.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

S I R,

NOTWITHSTANDING Mr. Vince has sufficiently, in the last volume of the Philosophical Transactions, explained the third part of his paper on the Summation of infinite Series in the Transactions for the year 1782, yet as the Monthly Reviewer for December 1783 has treated that gentleman very unhandfomely, I shall, as a friend to science, esteem it a favour if you will insert the following observations on his criticism. After a few very obscure observations on the two first parts of the paper, which I confess I do not comprehend, he says, "it would make our account of this article much too long, to illustrate, by particular examples, what we have here advanced concerning the two first parts, especially as we shall be obliged to do it in reviewing the third, which is by far more exceptionable." Now by the word *exceptionable* he means *wrong*, when applied to the third part, and therefore it must mean *wrong* when applied to the two first. Now I think it is more than probable that as he makes the office of a critic to consist wholly in finding fault, had there been any errors in the two first parts (as he imagines there are in the third) he would have produced them to the public. As there is however no answering general charges, let us see what specific ones he has brought. He says, "although we allow

that the quantity $\frac{1}{r+r}$ expanded by common division gives the series $\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{r}$

$+ \frac{1}{r} - \&c. ad infinitum$; yet the series is by no means equal to the said quantity.

For if the division be continued ever so infinitely, there will still be a remainder of $\frac{1}{r+r}$, consequently the said quantity $\frac{1}{r+r} = \frac{1}{2r} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{r}$

$- \&c. ad infinitum + \frac{1}{r+r}$, and therefore by transposition, the sum of the infinite series $\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{r} + \&c. ad infinitum$, is actually equal to nothing, as common sense would tell us it ought to be." Now I think *common*

sense might have told the reviewer that the remainder is not $\frac{1}{r+r}$, but $\pm \frac{1}{r+r}$, according as you take an even or an odd number of terms; for this introduction of a remainder necessarily supposes a termination of the series, and there is certainly nothing given in the series that confines the termination to an *even* in preference to an *odd* number of terms; according to his own method of reasoning, therefore, $\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{r} - \&c. may = 0$ or $\frac{1}{r}$.

Again he observes, that the sum of the series $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{3} + \frac{3}{4} - \&c.$ which must necessarily have as many negative terms as affirmative, and wherein every negative term is greater than its correspondent affirmative one; to suppose, we say, that the sum of such a series can possibly be an affirmative quantity, is as great an absurdity as can well be imagined." Now upon his own supposition, that the series terminates at an infinite distance, why an *even* rather than an *odd* number of terms should be taken I cannot conceive; I am sure there is nothing in the given series which confines it to one any more than the other; such a series is therefore one of the reviewer's own, and not one which Mr. V. proposed to be summed. Besides, according to his method of reasoning, we may make the sum of the series either affirmative or negative; for according to him $-\frac{2}{3} + \frac{3}{4} - \frac{4}{5} + \&c. ad infinitum$, is affirmative, because each negative term is

less than its correspondent affirmative one; now add to it $\frac{1}{2}$ and then $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} + \&c.$ *ad infinitum* is affirmative; which series by the same method of reasoning, each affirmative term being less than its correspondent negative one, is also negative; than which (to use the reviewer's own words) a greater absurdity cannot well be imagined. Again he says, "that, contrary to what he has asserted, the sums of all the series in his third part, are the same as of those that are formed by collecting two terms of the original series into one, beginning at the first term: but this is not the case when we begin to collect at the second. And we may assign a reason for this, by considering, that as we begin to collect only at the second term, the first is not at all concerned in the collection and therefore cannot with propriety be considered as a part of the series so collected." Now, what this has to do when applied to Mr. Vince's method of reasoning I cannot conceive; for whoever will give himself the trouble to look at his method of summation, will find, that he adds the first term to the series formed by collecting two terms into one, beginning at the second, and therefore the resulting series must be equal to the original series, and consequently equal to the series formed by collecting two terms into one, beginning at the first term. But by the reviewer's method of reasoning he deduces the following extraordinary conclusion; that, "the sum of the original series when we begin to collect at the second term, must be greater by unity than when we begin to collect at the first." That is, the same series, without the alteration of any one circumstance in the data, has two different values. These are the principles upon which the reviewer has objected to Mr. Vince's method of summation of series in the third part of his paper. His conclusions must be wrong upon his own principles, and had they been right they would have proved nothing against him, as he totally misunderstood the subject.

I shall conclude with an observation upon the reviewer's criticism on Mr. Hellins's paper containing a new method of finding the equal roots of an equation by division. He says, "all that is here said, and whatever has been done on the subject by the method above described, can only answer when the equal roots have each the same sign; to equations with equal roots, under contrary signs, it is quite inapplicable." That is, when the equal roots are unequal, the rule fails! I am, Sir, your's, &c.

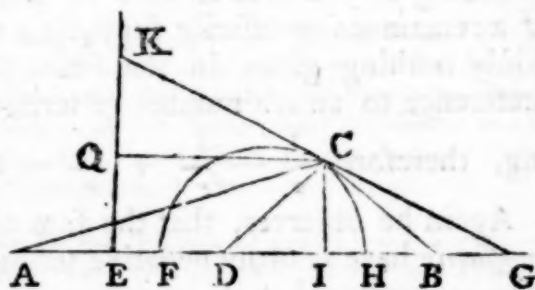
A. M.

ANSWERS TO MATHEMATICAL QUESTIONS.

85. QUESTION (III. Jan.) answered by Mr. G. SANDERSON.

CONSTRUCTION.

MAKE AD equal to the given difference of the segments of the base, which bisect in E, and erect the indefinite perpendicular EK; then (by Prob. XIII. p. 220, Simpson's Geom.) describe the circle HCF such, that lines drawn from A and D, to meet in the circumference, may obtain the given ratio of the sides. Then (by Prob. XLVII. p. 14, in the Mag. for July, 1784) draw the tangent GCK so as to be bisected in the point C; let fall the perpendicular CI, and make IB = DI, draw DC, CB, and ACB is the triangle required.



DEMONSTRATION.

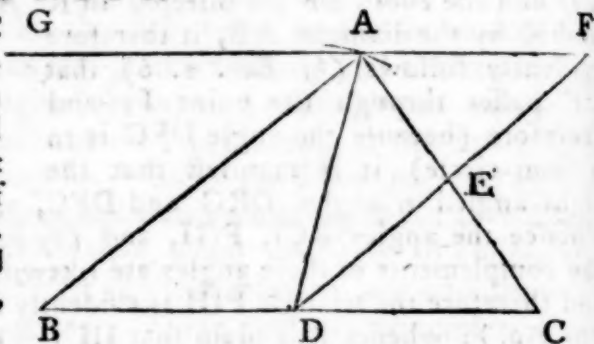
Draw CQ parallel to AD, meeting EK in Q. Then, because AD is bisected in E, and DB in I (by construction) it is manifest that the parallelogram EQCI, is equal to the triangle ACB, but the tangent KG is bisected in the point of contact C (by construction) therefore the rectangle EQCI is the greatest that can be inscribed

$=2y$, and $y = \sqrt[3]{\frac{3}{2}}$. The above equation, therefore, after completing the square will be $x^2 + \sqrt[3]{\frac{3}{2}} \times x + \sqrt[3]{\frac{9}{256}} = \sqrt[3]{\frac{16}{81}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{9}{256}} = \sqrt[3]{\frac{15625}{20736}}$; and by extracting the square roots $x + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[3]{\frac{3}{2}} = \sqrt[3]{\frac{125}{144}}$, or $x = \sqrt[3]{\frac{125}{144}} - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt[3]{\frac{3}{2}}$.

92. QUESTION (II. March) answered by Mr. WILLIAM KAYE, of Wakefield.

ANALYSIS.

Suppose the thing done, and that ABC is the triangle required. Draw DF parallel to AB and equal to half the given sum of the sides, which it is manifest will bisect AC in E, and it is farther evident that DE will be equal to half AB, and of course EF must be equal to half AC, viz. to AE: wherefore if F and A be joined the $\angle AFE$ will be equal to the $\angle FAE$, and therefore each of them to half the $\angle AED$ (Euc. 1. and 32); but AED is the supplement of DEC which is manifestly equal to the vertical \angle of the Δ , consequently F is equal to half the supplement of the vertical \angle , and hence this



CONSTRUCTION.

Draw $DF =$ to half the given sum of the sides, and from F draw FG indefinitely to make with FD an angle equal to half the supplement of the given vertical \angle : at D, with a radius equal to the given bisecting line cut FG in A, and from A draw AC to make the $\angle FAC = F$, and make $EC = AE$; through D draw CB indefinitely, and from A, parallel to DF, draw AB meeting CB in B, and ABC is the triangle required.

DEMONSTRATION.

AE or $EF = \frac{1}{2} AC$ by construction; \therefore as DE is parallel to AB, $DE = \frac{1}{2} AB$, consequently $DF = \frac{1}{2} AB + AC$. $\angle AED = EAF + AFE$ by I. 32. $= 2EFA$, by const. $=$ the supplement of the given vertical angle, and \therefore because of the parallels AB, DE, BAC is the given vertical angle; lastly, AD is by const. $=$ the given bisecting line, and it does bisect the base BC by VI. 2. because $AE = EC$ and DE is parallel to AB.

Q. E. D.

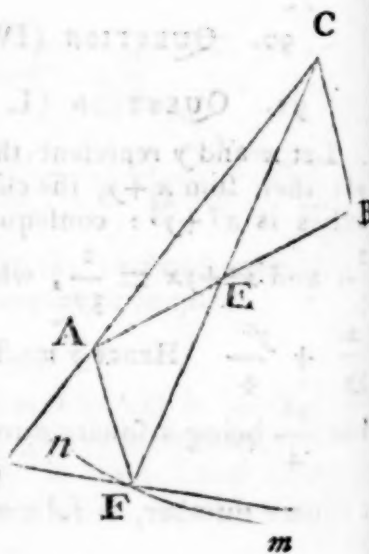
Another Answer to the same, by Mr. G. SANDERSON.

CONSTRUCTION.

Make CD equal the given sum of the sides, and make the angle CDF equal to half the supplement of the given one, also upon the point C, as a center, with a radius equal to twice the given bisecting line, let a circle nFm , be described, cutting DF in F. Join CF, and make the angle DFA = CDF, and let FA cut CD in A. From A, through E, the middle of CF, draw AB, meeting AB, drawn parallel to FA, in B, and ACB is the triangle required.

DEMONSTRATION.

Because CF is equal to twice CE, equal to twice the given bisecting line, and CB is parallel to FA (by construction); therefore $AE = EB$, and $CB = AF$, and the angle BCF = CEA; consequently ACB is equal to the supplement of CAF, equal (because AFD = CDF by const.) to the supplement of twice CDF; and $AD = AF = CB$; therefore, $AC + CB = AD$, the given sum of the sides.



Q. E. D.

$$\frac{9}{56} = \frac{125}{144}$$

MATHEMATICAL QUESTIONS.

100. QUESTION I. by Mr. THOMAS TODD, of Darlington.

To determine the least semi-parabola that will circumscribe a given circle by an analytical process, and the distinct value of all the roots in the resulting equation.

101. QUESTION II. by TASSO, of Bristol.

In a right-angled triangle there are given the sum of the two legs, and the sum of the hypotenuse and perpendicular, let fall upon it from the right angle, to construct the triangle.

102. QUESTION III. by the same Gentleman.

Given the vertical angle of a plane triangle, the perpendicular let fall from it on the base, and the rectangle of the segments of the base made thereby to construct the triangle.

THE MISCELLANY.

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

THOUGHTS ON THE SLAVERY OF THE NEGROES.

(Concluded from our last, page 365.)

THAT the produce of the West-Indian Islands cannot be attained, like that of other countries, by the efforts of voluntary servitude, it will be difficult to prove. Other countries are situated in the same climates, but the same degree of domestic tyranny exists no where, except in America, in some parts of which steps are now taking towards the abolition of it. The degree of heat which makes labour irksome, frequently lessens the necessity of it by a luxurious vegetation, and the hope of reward is a stronger incentive to industry, than the dread of punishment. The working of mines was formerly thought to be fit employment only for slaves or criminals, yet, with proper encouragement, most of them, at least in Europe, are now chearfully and advantageously wrought by hired labourers. "There is no labour (says an author before cited) so painful, that it cannot be proportioned to the strength of the workman, provided that reason, not avarice, be the rule. The application of mechanical inventions may, in many instances, supply the place of ser-

vile labour. There is not perhaps a climate on the earth, where freemen may not be engaged to work. Because laws were bad, men were found to be idle; because they are idle, they are put in a state of slavery*." The expence of cultivation might possibly be somewhat increased by procuring free labourers instead of slaves, though even that is doubtful; but what is the price, or indeed the existence, of the articles cultivated by slaves, in comparison with the misery and oppression by which they are produced? The objection, from motives of commercial policy, amounts to this, that the claims of religion and morality ought to be subservient to those of avarice and luxury, and that it is better thousands of poor unoffending people should be degraded and destroyed in the most abject slavery, than that the inhabitants of Europe should pay a higher price for their rum, rice, and sugar.

Slavery, amongst the ancients, may be traced to three original sources.

First, Debtors who sold themselves to their creditors: the injustice of which need not be expatiated upon; for,

* Montesquieu de l'Esprit des Loix, l. xv. ch. 8.

for, as the slave is allowed to possess no property, it is plain he can receive no equivalent for the surrender of his life and his liberty, both which are held to be in the master's disposal.

Secondly, Captives taken in war: the iniquity of which is equally evident, when it is considered, that the right over a vanquished enemy extends only to restraining him from committing future injuries, and not to any kind of punishment.

Thirdly, Birth: which depending on one of the other sources, can claim no principle of justification but what they possess, nor even so much, as the innocent children can neither be considered as debtors nor enemies.

The history of the Africans presents us with an additional source, a disgraceful commerce, in which the slaves are bought at a public mart, stowed together as the common cargo of the vessel, without regard to decency, cleanliness, or health, and cast overboard in case of short allowance or danger, without reluctance or pity. For the support of this commerce recourse is frequently had to violence, or fraud, and it is an indisputable fact, that, besides the temptation which a constant market for slaves holds out to the avarice, or the intemperance of the natives, arts have frequently been practised to foment wars among them. We find no instance among the ancient Heathens, of such a traffic with their captives, nor of that systematic oppression with which the negroes are treated at this day by professed Christians. Slavery amongst the Greeks and Romans was frequently mitigated to servitude; and amongst the Jews, a people to whom, for the hardness of their hearts, we are told, "Statutes were given, which were not good*," it was either limited in duration, or consented to by the parties themselves; except with respect to the Heathens around them†, whom they were commissioned, by an express command, which no other nation can assume as a precedent, not only to enslave, but in many instances utterly to extirpate and destroy. Yet to do just-

ly, and to love mercy, are precepts delivered under the Jewish dispensation; and, in the immediate administration of the theocracy, we find no subject more fruitful of complaint and chastisement, than the oppression of the poor and the slaves. Amongst the Romans, the slaves were indulged with some property of their own, the reward of their industry and good behaviour, which was distinguished by the name of *peculium*; a laudable practice, which the French also have imitated in their own islands, as has been mentioned. In the English islands, the laws, so far from allowing them a *peculium*, afford them no protection from the most atrocious injuries. That death to which as captives of war they might, however unjustly, be doomed, is surely ill exchanged for a life of such degradation and pain. At all events, if the principles and progress of slavery be founded in injustice, no sanction of antiquity can warrant its continuance.

However incumbent it be on the individuals concerned in this species of property to satisfy the demands of reason and conscience by relinquishing it, experience has taught, that it is too deeply entangled with motives of interest and habits of power to be voluntarily abandoned, at least in any general line. The sense of what is right, too frequently requires the salutary assistance of law to overcome the temptation to persevere in what is known to be wrong. The alteration and gradual subversion of this system, can only be hoped for from the interposition of the British legislature, which would, in this instance, be granted with peculiar propriety, because the revenue of the government, the profits of the merchants, and the luxury of the people, have involved the whole nation as *participes criminis*: and the burthen of restoring to the Africans their alienated rights should not press too partially on the planters, who adopted, not introduced, this iniquitous traffick, and have pursued it under the patronage of Britain, but should be borne by all who share in its

* Ezek. xx. 25.

† Lev. xxv. 44.

its advantages. The first measure which presents itself to the wish of humanity, seems to be the absolute prohibition of all importations of slaves into any part of the British dominions. The emancipation of those already in slavery, and the means of procuring supplies of freemen, will claim, no doubt, the maturest deliberation of wise and experienced men. Perhaps it may not be impracticable to hire the negroes fairly in their own country, embark them with their own consent, and allow them to return, in a limited time, if they chose it: perhaps, by encouragement of population, to which slavery has always proved an invincible obstacle*, a succession of the present race in the islands might be continued as free servants: or perhaps a supply of voluntary labourers may be procured from other nations.

There may be some well-disposed minds who think that if the slaves were better treated, and properly instructed in the Christian religion, their condition might give them an opportunity, not afforded in their own country, of learning the truths of the gospel, of quitting the idolatry of their ancestors, and of making their temporal toil conduce to their eternal happiness. Thus Louis XIII. who established this worst species of tyranny in the French colonies, after a conflict between his humanity and his superstition, issued at length the fatal edict, because he was told it was the surest way of converting the Africans†. It must be confessed, to the disgrace of the English nation and the Protestant profession, that religious instruction has been more attended to in the Po-

lish colonies than in the English, where, indeed, attempts of that kind have not merely been neglected, but have been obstructed. It cannot, however, be admitted that even such a plan, conducted with zeal and liberality, though laudable in itself, would reconcile the negro-trade with the principles of humanity. The end cannot justify the means. It never was intended that the gospel of peace should be propagated by the violation of every tender connection, by compulsion, and by fraud.

Another plea for the regulation, rather than the abolition, of the slave-trade, will probably be adduced from the desire of preserving an extensive commerce, and from the relation of certain travellers and missionaries, who represent the fecundity of women, and the defect of natural affection amongst the Africans to be such, that father will frequently exchange a son or a daughter for a cow, a piece of cloth, or even a bottle of wine or brandy; and that their quarrels amongst themselves are frequent, and carried on with the greatest animosity; the prisoners on both sides being branded as slaves, and sold, if not to Europeans, to other nations of the African race: from which it is inferred, that if protection, instruction, and moderate usage were afforded them, if all stratagems to inveigle were strictly prohibited, if the commerce were restrained to those only who are previously, and *de facto*, slaves, and if a limitation were made of the number to be carried in one ship, no injury would be done them, the West Indian commerce would be preserved, and the exchange might be mutually beneficial

* "The remains that are found of slavery in the American colonies, and among some European nations, would never surely create a desire of rendering it more universal. The little humanity commonly observed in persons, accustomed from their infancy to exercise so great an authority over their fellow-creatures, and to trample upon human nature, were sufficient alone to disgust us with that authority. Nor can a more probable reason be given for the severe, I might say, barbarous manners of ancient times, than the practice of domestic slavery; by which every man of rank was rendered a petty tyrant, and educated amidst the flattery, submission, and low debasement of his slaves."—"If London at present, without increasing, needs a yearly recruit from the country of five thousand people, as is commonly computed, what must it require if the greatest part of the tradesmen and common people were slaves, and were hindered from breeding by their avaricious masters?"—"All I pretend to infer from these reasonings is, that slavery is in general disadvantageous, both to the happiness and populousness of mankind; and that its place is much better supplied by the practice of hired servants." HUME. Ess. on the Pop. of Anc. Nat.

The same author cites Xenophon, Demosthenes, and Plautus, in proof that the Athenian treatment of their slaves was extremely gentle and indulgent.

† Labat, as cited by Montesquieu, *De l'Esp. des Loix*, l. xv. c. 4.

beneficial to the planters and the slaves.

The insuperable objection to this plea, without excepting against the authenticity of these accounts, is, that it is taking advantage of another's wrong. If slaves are unjustly reduced to that condition by the contingencies of war, or the unnatural caprice of a parent (which, if it exists, is probably owing to the polygamy and promiscuous concubinage of the negroes) no subsequent purchase can convert the wrong into right; as the receiver of stolen goods, knowing them to be so, is equally culpable with the thief. No right exists, as has been shewn, to alienate from another his liberty, so as to sell him for a slave, and therefore every purchase of a slave is in contradiction to the original inherent rights of mankind. Besides the injustice of the principle, which must be retained under every modification of it, the impracticability of such restrictions is obvious. No impartial jurisdiction resides, or can reside, in the country, to discriminate those who are already slaves according to the custom of the country, from those who are not so, or from others, who are led into captivity for the purpose of supplying the European markets; and every one knows that when interest and power are combined against the mere consciousness of right, the former generally prevail.

I omit the consideration of criminals who have forfeited their lives or liberties. The posterity of such, not incurring the guilt of their parents, cannot justly be subjected to the same punishment; and, of themselves, their number must be too few to answer the

purpose of the trader or the planter.

If it be asked, why a system, which has been established and encouraged for near a century, should *now* be attacked; or why *this*, of the many oppressions under which human nature groans, should be singled out for complaint; the answer may be given in the words of the preacher, "*Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.*" The time of the oldest, and the abilities of the wisest men, are too little to remedy all the defects of political government, or to repel the incursions of vice, in the various shapes it may assume; but, to relieve the miserable, and to do good to all men, are plain and practical precepts of humanity, which fall within the line of every man's duty, whenever an opportunity offers of fulfilling them. And it must entirely obviate this objection to remark, that if antiquity of system could justify error and oppression; or if it were an established principle, that *no* evils were to be remedied, because *all* could not, the reformed religion would not now subsist, nor would the inquisitions have been abolished.

A candid inquiry into this subject must surely terminate in a call upon those who are invested with the power of redress, for the gradual indeed, but total abolition of slavery, in every part of the British dominions; and, till that be accomplished, for some authoritative act, to render the present situation of the slaves more tolerable, to allow them some profit from the sweat of their brow, to provide some mode of instructing them in useful truths, and rigidly to prohibit the importation of more.

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE. STRICTURES ON ACTORS AND AUTHORS.

BY MR. WALDRON.

(Concluded from our last, page 368.)

MRS. Abington's performance of Lady Teazle in the School for Scandal, has been justly considered as one of her most capital exertions; Miss

Farren is very little, if any thing, inferior in this most pleasing character to her all-accomplished predecessor; and Miss Pope, in the character of Mrs.

Candour

Candour in the same piece, is, if I may speak mythologically upon the occasion, *the Goddess of Scandal*, or at least *Scandal personified*.

As a particular instance of Mrs. Crawford's admirable execution in some characters, I will mention her *death of Arpasia* in Rowe's *Tamerlane*; which was only to be compared to the rapidity of electricity, or to "the lightning, which doth cease to be, ere one can say—it lightens."

Mrs. Yates never appeared to more advantage than in her pathetic and classical recitation of Mr. Sheridan's *Monody* on Garrick. Her delivery of the divine speech on mercy, in *The Merchant of Venice*, is also a most finished piece of oratory.

Mr. Yates has been a very fine comedian: when Garrick played *Hamlet*, and Yates, at the same time, the *Grave-digger*, it was a disputed point which of the two was most excellent in his respective character: rising performers, and declining memory or powers, in some degree eclipsed and obscured his fame; but in Sir Oliver Surface, in that great field for display of comic talents, *The School for Scandal*, he again shone with meridian lustre.

Mr. Smith is a most deservedly-admired actor: in tragedy he is highly respectable; in comedy easy, humorous, and vivacious; particularly in Charles Surface, in the same admirable piece: nor do I think it too much to say that in *Archer*, in Farquhar's *Beaux Stratagem*, he excels even Garrick; but of the two remarkably opposite characters in that piece, *Archer* and *Scrub*, he can play only *Archer*: Weston, that matchless actor of simplicity, and those parts requiring the truest humour (dryness and gravity) which, while the audience is convulsed with laughter, seems unconscious of the cause; Weston, I say, could, in like manner, of those two characters play only *Scrub*: and herein consisted a remarkable particular of Garrick's merit; although he could not play *Scrub* so well as Weston, he could accommodate himself with equal facility to that, or to *Archer*; to *Fribble*

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or to *Brute*; to the aged *Lufignan* and *Lear*, or to the lively *Ranger* and juvenile *School-boy*. It is worthy observation, that although Weston played *Scrub* much better than Garrick, he did not play *Abel Drugger* quite so well.

Mr. Palmer possesses a versatility beyond any actor (Mr. Henderson excepted) now on the stage; his performance of *Joseph Surface*, in *The School for Scandal*, is at least a refinement upon acting, if not a flight above it: and, notwithstanding the unequalled excellence of the late Mr. Love in *Sir Toby Belch*, in *Twelfth Night*, there is much to praise in Mr. Palmer's exhibition of that character; nothing to reprehend.

It would be unjust, even in these cursory observations, to confine my eulogium of Mr. Henderson to the mention of *one* character only; although that were, as I think it is, the one he excels most in; for there are many of Mr. Garrick's most favourite characters which he appears in with great credit to himself, and applause from the audience; that in which he has been thought to approach the nearest to his predecessor is *Hamlet*: and, if we oppose the declamatory skill of Mr. Henderson—a quality indispensably necessary to the performance of this most difficult character—to the pathos and phrenzy (whether it be an assumed or real madness in *Hamlet* is not here a question) of Garrick; I think it must be allowed that however short of him he may fall in some particulars, in the one I have mentioned, at least, he exceeds him: and, as those ideas of perfection which exist in the mind (I mean the nearest approaches to it we can conceive) are generally produced by a composition of selected excellencies and beauties; he who would form to himself an idea of *a perfect Hamlet*, must, with the pervading melancholy, the filial piety, the sprightliness of the gayer parts, the wildness of others, the sublimity of the impassioned ones, and the nice discrimination of these opposite but component characteristics of this young prince, which our inimitable Garrick so admirably displayed;

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he, I say, who would imagine a perfect Hamlet, must add to these the oratorical powers of Mr. Henderson, and he will then, with his "mind's eye," behold such a Hamlet, as with the corporeal one perhaps never has been seen.

Mr. Henderson's masterly performance of Sir Giles Overreach, in Maf-finger's New Way to pay Old Debts, has given a permanency to the revival of that comedy at Covent-Garden theatre, which it could not obtain about twelve years since at Drury-Lane theatre; though performed in almost every respect as well as now, the character of Sir Giles particularly excepted.

I might here with great propriety expatiate on the dramatic merits of Mr. King, whom I have hitherto only spoken of transiently and incidentally; but, though nothing said in his commendation could be flattery, lest it should be thought so by the readers of my dedication, I will impose a disagreeable silence on myself with regard to this equally excellent actor and man.

Mr. Bensley, to the strictest propriety in whatever character he undertakes (generally parental ones, or those requiring weight and dignity, strong feeling, and nervous expression) adds the merit of being singularly excellent in the fantastical steward, Malvolio.

Mr. Dodd is admirable in fops, fribbles, and Sir Andrew Ague-cheek; his performance of Old Kecksey, in Garrick's farce of The Irish Widow, is a master-piece; and he treads in the very steps of his great predecessor in Abel Drugger.

Mr. Lewis is a modern Wilks; I can never see him without thinking of Sir Harry Wildair: how charming is he in Doricourt, in Mrs. Cowley's Belle's Stratagem! He gave an early specimen of his great merit in the character of Don John, in D'Avenant's comedy of The Man's the Master; and was most delicately characteristic in the Slave, in Mr. Cumberland's unpublished piece, The Widow of Delphi.

Mr. Wroughton is a most feeling and energetic actor; his conceptions of

character are remarkably clear, his delineation always perfect, and his execution frequently consummate. In the character of the Bondman, in Maf-finger's play so called, he divided the palm with his friendly competitor, Lewis; but in the Count of Narbonne, in Col. Jephson's tragedy of that name, he far surpassed the most sanguine expectations: and Miss Younge in the Countess—Oh, let us not, however justly we may admire another, forget her transcendent excellence therein! In Twelfth Night too, who ever heard Miss Younge speak "She never told her love," &c. without almost thinking he saw the image of Patience she described?

Mr. James Aickin is a very estimable actor; possessing no inconsiderable portion of versatility: he sustains with equal propriety, the venerable Sciolto, in Rowe's Fair Penitent; the rascal, Subtle, in Johnson's Alchymist; the generous English Merchant, in Mr. Colman's comedy of that name; and the mere *Cit*, in one of that excellent author's unpublished pieces, written in the very spirit of Johnson, called The Suicide: he is also a very respectable substitute for Mr. Yates in Sir Oliver Surface.

It is but justice to remark that Mr. Palmer's performance of the hero of Mr. Colman's last-mentioned piece is as fine (I apprehend) as the author himself could wish: he is likewise particularly excellent in Face, in The Alchymist.

Mr. Francis Aickin, brother to the before-mentioned actor of that name, is a very valuable and judicious performer; the nicely-blended tints, the properly-varied colouring, he throws on that masterly sketch, the faltering traitor, Daggerly, in Mr. Cumberland's comedy (a strange epithet for a play, two characters of which are consigned to the gibbet!) The Walloons, denote the hand of an artist.

Mr. Hull, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. Packer, are very respectable in the line to which they modestly confine themselves; the literary talents of the former, and those of Mr. Macklin, are an honour to their profession. I have

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heard that Mr. Henderson is not deficient in those endowments, but he has written nothing dramatic that I know of.

Mr. King, whom as an author I cannot now avoid mentioning, having given very pleasing specimens of his literary abilities, will, it is hoped, favour the public with some other products of his sprightly fancy; more particularly as his present situation ensures that attention to his writings, which those of actors in subordinate stations, might, hitherto at least, in vain expect: for, true it is, and with indignation I speak it, that while the flimsy, vapid abortions of gentlemen-writers were meritriciously tricked out, puffed, and supported; and (pardon me, gentle reader, for so coarse a saying!) the fat sow greased with the profit thereof; the mature offspring of genius, if produced by a needy actor, whom the emoluments arising from a patronized piece would have essentially served, have been shamefully refused; or, if received, most scandalously neglected: and the "poor player," who could not "strut and fret his hour upon the stage" with sufficient eclat to gain thereby a competence, instead of having his fancy fostered, and being cherished till his judgement ripened, left to "dwindle, peak, and pine" in "poverty, that numbs the soul with icy hand!"

Had Shakspeare's early dramatic writings been despised because he was a "poor player;" or had he, when he became a manager, superciliously overlooked, or slighted what the itinerant actor, Jonson, offered to his theatre; their noble spirits might have sunk under the contempt, and the world never seen those wonders of their pen, Lear, Macbeth, Othello! the Fox, the Alchymist, and the Silent Woman!

Mr. Baddeley, I should have observed before, produced an excellent farce, called The Swindlers, for his benefit at Drury-lane theatre, a few seasons past; which, like other unfortunate productions of the players' muse, has lain by ever since unregarded.

Mr. Holcroft, having quitted the

stage, does not properly come within the bounds of these observations: yet I must say, that the fifth act of his entertaining and instructive comedy, called Duplicity, produced last season at Covent-Garden theatre, he being at that time an actor at Drury-lane, is a masterly piece of writing, and had a very fine effect in the representation.

The foregoing free censure must not be mistaken for a rude, and undistinguishing invective; as if I thought the advantages of a more liberal education, and freer commerce with the higher ranks of life than actors can often boast of, should incapacitate those gentlemen, on whom Nature has bestowed an enlarged and comprehensive mind, for producing works that might be an ornament not only to the stage, but to literature in general: the contrary is well known.

I allude only to those "unbodied, unsoul'd" *nothings*, which, had they not been recommended by a lord, or a laced coat, would, instead of excluding pieces of merit, have still remained "unheard, unseen."

Neither do I think that, because a few actors have written dramatic pieces of great merit, of course all must; some of them, so far from writing, are not, I fear, sufficiently attentive to reading: and others may attempt to write without any, or with very slender abilities.

I would only be understood to mean that if a player, be his rank in a theatre what it will, produces a drama, it should have (if not, as the profession of its author seems to demand, a preference to those produced by persons not of that description) at least an equal degree of attention paid to it, if deserving thereof, as to those written by the richest or most exalted.

The nominal distinction I have made between gentlemen-writers, and player-authors, has been merely to distinguish between the two classes of dramatists, of whom I was speaking; not because I thought an actor, if in his manners a gentleman, the less so on account of his profession.

FOR THE LONDON MAGAZINE.
A DEFENCE OF THE TATTLE OF WOMEN.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF M. ROBINET.

—**W**HILST the greater part of a mixed company of men and women which I was in some time ago were prattling away, I entered without reserve into conversation myself with an Englishman, whom I had formerly met with in another place. We argued together concerning good and evil nearly half an hour. He maintained that there was a greater proportion of vice and misery amongst mankind, than there was of virtue and true happiness. I, on the other hand, endeavoured to convince him that the balance was every where equal: but it was with the greatest difficulty in the world that I could make him get rid of certain gloomy ideas, which, in him, were as much the effect of climate as of reflection. Our conversation was such as might, from the moderation with which it was carried on, have easily escaped the notice of those who were about us: one of the ladies, however, either from inconsiderateness or from curiosity, interrupted us, by saying, in a civil tone, "Pray, gentlemen philosophers, what are you talking about? Why deny us the pleasure of your excellent remarks?"

The Englishman seized this opportunity of jesting with me openly on the singularity of my opinion, and I confess that he gave it an air of originality. There is one objection, said the same lady, which completely overturns this system which is by no means entirely new. Though it is neither to the interest nor to the honour of my own sex, I will, nevertheless, faithfully state it, if I may be permitted, without aggravation or extenuation. The bare statement of it will, I flatter myself, sufficiently show its insuperability.

On hearing this, the curiosity of the company was immediately excited; every one was desirous to know what it was. Accordingly they applied to me, and asked me if I accepted the

challenge. I was not willing to refuse it, since I was convinced of the justness of my opinion, and was very eager to prove it. "Ladies (added I) if I am mistaken, I am excusable; it is from observing human nature, perfected by society, that my error, if any there be, has been drawn. I have always seen good and evil follow each other closely, and have ever found them to flow equally from every thing which exists."

"Well, Sir (replied my antagonist full of wit and grace) what I mean is the impertinent loquacity of some females:—that overpowering prattle of a simple tongue, which, by its perpetual volubility, keeps so many other mouths shut, that have an equal right to be open with itself:—that distracting confusion of twenty different ones who speak without ceasing and all together, and without saying one word to the purpose:—that propensity to babbling which occasions so much nonsense, which betrays secrets of the most sacred kind, defames our neighbours, calumniates good men, sets friends at variance, foment quarrels, produces domestic broils, and is so frequently the plague of married men. What are the advantages which society derives from this vice, in recompence for the evils to which it gives rise? You will be very clever, indeed, Sir, if, with all your sagacity, you can point out a single good resulting from it amidst a hundred evils. As for the use of speech, there is no doubt that, if reasonable and moderate, it is equally great in women as in men: what I speak of here, is the strange abuse which we make of it, as I have just now described. Do you show that this loquacity is as beneficial to mankind as it is apparently injurious. That is your task."

I know not whether it was the intention of my fair speaker to mortify some of the circle; certain it is, however,

ever, that I observed a cloudiness in several of their faces; and this circumstance led me to hope I should be readily listened to. I read in the eyes of all that they were much inclined to hear the justification of a fault of which they were too fond not to wish it had some foundation in reason. This encouraged me to speak as follows:

“ Ladies, Never did I engage in a cause with greater pleasure, not only on account of the lovely sex which are concerned in it, but also of the multitude of arguments which present themselves to my imagination in its favour. It cannot be denied that Nature has benefited the women on the score of their tongue; and that, instead of multiplying in them this organ, which she could have done with the same facility with which she has doubled those of sight and of hearing, she has endowed it with a wonderful mobility. Accustomed to reflect on every thing, I have considered on what this privilege was founded; and I have not had much difficulty in discovering it. To the women, who are created for the purpose of peopling society, the care of our infancy is entrusted. It is in their company only, that we pass the first years of our lives. It is their duty, in proportion as our body increases, to assist the mind in unfolding itself likewise, that is, to put it in the way of acquiring new ideas: for, it is to be presumed that the sphere of the mind can be enlarged only by the number of ideas; and that we can acquire ideas only by the exercise of our senses, and more especially by those of sight and hearing. Will you now dispute with me the advantages arising from the prattle of nurses, and of governesses of children? Do they not exercise our infant ears, and engrave on our tender brains many ideal traces which would never be imprinted on them without this help? It is, then, with a view to teach us to think by times, to rouse our young imaginations, that provident Nature has bestowed so much talkativeness on women.

“ Observe the difference between two children, one of whom has been

brought up by a lively young girl of an incessant talk, and the other by a silent pedant, who never smiled in his life. The first of these children sparkles with wit and grace: his little jargon is full of fallies: he speaks of every thing which concerns his own age, and is wonderfully ready in receiving instruction. The second is almost stupid: he betrays in company an air of embarrassment, and is scarcely able to utter a single word.

“ Nature, who has destined women to nourish their own children, to bring them up, to fashion their minds, at least during their infancy, for the same reason that she has filled their breasts with milk, has given them also this volubility of tongue, so well adapted to aid our weakness at that time, to direct our growing imagination from object to object, to bring us to exercise with ease the faculty of thinking, and to familiarize us by times with every thing about us. Yes, ladies, were you to talk less, we should think less, should think with difficulty, should think more slowly. Really life is too short to suffer any thing to be neglected, from the very beginning of our career, which can contribute to the progress of our knowledge.

“ Born as we are in the heart of society, where the natural language of gesture is almost unknown, it becomes necessary for us to learn to speak that we may express our wants, our wishes, and our thoughts. The simple expression of cries is only in vogue amongst savages. Every method is used to compel us to stifle them: hence a new obligation of rendering ourselves intelligible by forced articulations. Now, if the same sounds incessantly strike our ears, we shall be more inclined to imitate them, and to affix to them the same significations which the presence of the objects themselves would suggest. These first expressions, the most necessary in practice, are exactly those which form the ordinary conversation of the women and young females that are placed over us. It is with great propriety, therefore, that Nature has ordained that the conversation of women should always turn

on

on the same plainest and most common subjects. Her design is to familiarize us by times with such objects, and to teach us to know and to name them whenever occasion requires.

"Let us suppose that women had the same taste for more elevated, more abstruse, and less known subjects. Thenceforth their conversation would be no longer adapted to the weakness of infants, whose tender brain is incapable of any painful employment. The simplicity of the ideas which are presented to a child, in order to exercise his intellectual faculties, should correspond to the delicacy of his organs: the presence of the objects, or of their similitudes, should render his perception the more ready, otherwise instead of assisting the mind, we shall throw him into a state of confusion and dullness, capable of stupefying and destroying the most promising dispositions.

I agree that we are afterwards to forget the tales which we heard in our infancy, and that we must entirely alter our mode of thinking: but this must be left to time, which will gradually bring about this substitution of ideas. Our first conceptions, however frivolous they may have been, have nevertheless accustomed us to think. Their frivolousness was necessary, because we were incapable of employing ourselves with things of more weight. Obligated to begin by that which is the simplest, we should have found it a difficult matter to have reasoned sensibly now, if we had not, in our earlier days, have learned to reason and think like children. The mind is developed like the body itself: it passes through several stages before it is completely formed. The intellect has its time of weakness, when puerile exertions only are to be expected from it. To this end, Nature has made a provision, by giving the women, under whose care we pass the first seven or eight years of our life, a decided taste for *bagatelle*, a prodigious faculty of speaking a long time on nothing, an hereditary propensity to repetition: all this Nature seems to have done, with a view of preventing

them from overloading our weak brains with too great a multiplicity of ideas."

"You infer, then (said some one of the company) that the prattle of women teaches the whole species to speak and to think."

"Certainly (replied I;) and I further maintain, for the honour of the fair-sex, that society derives infinite pleasure from this pretended fault. Almost every female possesses a voice: a clear, soft, variable, musical voice: a voice which charms us, which constitutes the happiness of private circles, and affords entertainment to a whole nation, at the concert and opera."

"Would you, then, persuade me (said the Englishman in a tone of railery) that, if the women spoke less, they would not sing so well?"

"Indeed they would not (replied I;) as I will let you judge. I consider the wind-pipe, with a modern philosopher, as a chorded instrument. The air, coming out from the lungs in the act of expiration, causes the tendinous fibres of the upper part of the wind-pipe to contract, and by throwing them, at the same time, into vibrations, obtains the varieties of sounds from them. All the harmony of singing, all the nicety of sounds, all the softness of quavers, and all the delicacy of modulation, depend on the flexibility of these fibres or vocal chords, and on the accuracy of their vibrations.

"Besides, the organ of voice in women possesses an extreme sensibility; insomuch that the air, which in the constant motions of inspiration and expiration enters into and goes out of the lungs through the canal of the wind-pipe, incessantly irritates the same canal to make itself heard. Hence their propensity to speak is a physical necessity, from which men are exempt, since the grosser fibres of their wind-pipe are less easily thrown into vibrations.

"The perpetual babbling of women preserves this organ in a state of flexibility: the volubility of the tongue modifies the voice to that rapidity of evolution, to those varied inflections, which are suited to the passions which
 1 agitate

agitate the soul, to that melody which describes all the phenomena of nature, from the clap of thunder down to the oblivious charm of sleep. It is to their loquacity, therefore, that they are indebted for the sweetness of their voice, and that we are indebted for the pleasure which their voice affords. I lay it down as a fact, not only that the prattle of women makes their voice more charming, but that it would even be almost possible for those who want a voice to acquire one by indulging in tattle, since by frequently repeating the vibrations of the fibres of the wind-pipe, they become flexible and easy, and soon loose that hardness and stiffness which are the cause of a bad voice. If the sex were to be condemned to taciturnity, their voice would be like the tone of an instrument which is seldom played upon.

"For it must not be imagined that practising an hour a-day for two or three years with a singing-master will be sufficient to form or keep up a voice: no: the delicacy of this organ requires a more continued action. And, as it would not do to sing always (for, besides that complaisance does not suffer it, singing is too fatiguing to the chest) conversation must be substituted for it, and prattling without cessation must

be allowed: a pretty agreeable exercise, well suited to throw the vocal fibre into vibration, and to keep them, without fatigue, in constant motion.

"Women can speak at all times; it is a wise institution, that of assigning to them, as their portion, occupations compatible with their loquacious dispositions."—"It would be a great piece of injustice (said the lady who had declaimed so well against her own sex) to complain of the frivolousness of our discourses. Does not every body know that we are inexhaustible on the subject of nothings? If we were to speak only on science, arts, politics, and religion, we should soon run out all that we knew: speaking, without understanding the subject, we should constantly commit an offence against good-sense, on topics of the highest importance."

"Madam (continued I) I did not dare to express myself so freely: I will not add any thing farther to your observation."

O happy tattle! the inestimable blessing, which prepares the high delights that result from a sweet voice! The precious talent, to which the greatest men are indebted for the first use they have made of the faculty of thought and expression!

P.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MAGAZINE.

S I R,

Paris, May 10, 1785.

I Send you some account of the royal family. Last Sunday I went to Versailles, for the purpose of seeing them. Every Sunday and holiday they publicly attend divine service, in a gallery of the Palace Chapel; but, what is remarkable, the princesses never accompany the princes; the King and his two brothers assist at one mass; and when that is over, the Queen and her sisters-in-law attend together at another: her Majesty kneels in the centre, the Countess de Provence on her right, the Countess d'Artois on her left, and Madame Elisabeth, the King's sister, behind. This last is a fine young lady; and I must own, I lamented that our laws opposed an in-

superable barrier between her and the Prince of Wales, who could not dislike her person, and who would find in her a fit partner of the British throne, without being under the necessity of seeking among the petty princesses of Germany for a consort. The Queen is of a good size, rather inclined to corpulency, or *embonpoint*; and though I saw her behave with the greatest condescension to the nobility who attended her, still, she had a certain air of *hauteur*, that might tell them she knew herself to be the sister and wife of two of the greatest princes in the world. Her chin is a little turned up, and her nose aquiline, so that, when she grows old, they will probably be nearly related;

lated: however, at present, she appears to great advantage; but more particularly when in the company of the two princesses, Madame de Provence, and the Countess d'Artois, who being both very swarthy, with very low foreheads, and irregular features, serve as foils to set off the superiour beauty of her Majesty. On Sundays the King and his brothers dine in public. The etiquette of the court has established two particular kinds of public court dinners—The one called the *petit couvert*, the other the *grand couvert*—At the former none sit or eat but the King and Queen; at the latter all the descendants of Louis the Fifteenth dine together. The day I saw the King dine, the *petit couvert* obtained; the Queen sat with his Majesty, but did not eat a morsel; and in my opinion she acted very wisely; for I think that, if I had the best appetite in Versailles, I could not gratify it, in the presence of three or four hundred persons, all gazing upon me at once, as if I had twenty heads: at that moment, and while the dinner lasted, I am sure, that if it were in my power, it was not in my wishes to be a King. I thought his Majesty felt the awkwardness of his situation; for though I must needs confess that he ate and drank very heartily, yet he asked many questions, that will never be recorded in a book of wisdom. I would not, however, insinuate, that his Majesty wants sense; the whole tenour of his reign has proved the contrary; but it was necessary for him, in order to divert the eyes of the spectators from himself, to speak to some of his courtiers; and as he had *no particular subject* of conversation, it could not otherwise happen, than that most of his questions should be of a frivolous nature: they had, however, the desired effect; for the moment his Majesty addressed any gentleman, the eyes of all the spectators were turned, to see who was the happy man, who had attracted the notice of the *grand monarque*. On each side of the table, but at some distance from it, sat six duchesses on *tabourets*, or stools; and occasionally they used all to rise, and sit, together, like so many automaton in the hand of *eti-*

quette. The Duke de Chartres, notwithstanding his relation to the throne, stood behind the King's chair, and took charge of his napkin, when his Majesty rose from table. Each of the King's brothers dined in public, in the same manner, in their respective apartments; but though their consorts attended at dinner, still they did not dine in public, but reserved their appetites to partake of the Queen's dinner in private. Besides the *grand* and *petit couvert*, the court etiquette has established two other modes of dining—the *petit* and the *grand apartment*; at the former, such of the nobility as the King is pleased to invite may sit down with their Majesties; but at the latter, none but the princes of the blood of Bourbon.—Much is said about the etiquette of the court of Spain; and some of the best writers have exercised all the powers of ridicule to run it down, and explode it: in doing this, none have been more industrious than the French; and yet their own court is just as much under the dominion of etiquette, as that of Spain; for the courtiers of Versailles, think, move, eat, drink, and walk, only as etiquette directs them: nay, the very monarch himself, who rules the nation with an absolute sway, is not exempt from the dominion of this plaguy etiquette: does he wish to hunt at one of his country seats, or travel from one palace to another, he cannot indulge his fancy, until it is first determined whether it is perfectly consistent with etiquette: if it is, then the journey is to take place; and this is all decided in full council, after the most serious and solemn deliberation: but you must not imagine that the business ends here; on the contrary, a still greater difficulty remains: the etiquette prescribes the number of persons who are to attend upon the court in the different journies; the number of those who aspire to this honour is almost infinite; each has pretensions which he thinks indisputable, and supports them with all his interest; and to decide which are the best founded, often costs a minister more trouble than the settling preliminary articles of peace between

between half a dozen belligerent powers. There is another honour, to which every man who attends the court never fails to aspire; and that is, to be admitted into the King's carriages, and to go a hunting in them, with his Majesty. The *merit* which entitles the candidate to this honour is *birth*; and, therefore, proofs must be given, that the person who looks for it has been nobly born, of a family that has been ennobled for at least four generations paternally and maternally; there is a genealogist appointed by the King, who is the supreme judge in these matters, and to whom all the deeds, records, patents, &c. relative to the ennobling of the family must be submitted; and, perhaps, there is not in the world a judge who has so much business, or so troublesome an office: the applications to his tribunal are innumerable in a country where the noblesse forms an immense body; for you must not imagine that the word *nobility* means precisely the same thing in France, that it does in England. In the latter, we count those only noblemen who are honoured with the peerage; whereas, in France the *noblesse* includes the *gentry*, just as much as the dukes and peers; and a little lordling of a village, with 10l. sterling

a-year, or even without a shilling, may be called *noble*, as much as my lord duke, if his family had been distinguished from the common class of subjects by letters patent, or by bearing some commission which time immemorially conferred *noblesse* on the possessor; and, by ennobling his blood, upon his descendents. You may, therefore, conceive that this poor genealogist has not a moment to spare; proofs of noblesse must be given by those who want to get admission into the *ecole militaire*, who make interest for commissions in the army, who intrigue for a blue ribbon, or for the honour of sitting in the King's carriages: judge then of the multiplicity of business through which he must wade, and, from the insipidity of it, guess how irksome such an employment must be to a man of sense; and bless God that you live in a country, where you may be an officer, a lord of the bed-chamber, a peer of parliament, and the King's companion in his state-coach, without being under the necessity of resorting to the merits of ancestors, or proving that you ever knew the Christian name of your grandfather.

A TRAVELLER.

P O E T R Y.

O D E

For his Majesty's Birth-Day, June 4, 1785.

Written by Mr. Warton, Poet-Laureat,
And set to music by Mr. Stanley, Master of
the King's Band.

AMID the thunder of the war,
True glory guides no echoing car,
Nor bids the sword her bays bequeath,
Nor stains with blood her highest wreath:
No plumed host her tranquil triumphs own;
Nor spoils of murder'd multitudes she brings,
To swell the state of her distinguish'd kings,
And deck her chosen throne.
On that fair throne, to Britain dear,
With the flowering olive twin'd,
High she hangs the hero's spear;
And there, with all the palms of peace combin'd,
Her unpolled hands the milder trophy rear.
To kings like these, her genuine theme,
The Muse a blameless homage pays;
To George, of kings like these supreme,
She wishes honour'd length of days,
Nor prostitute the tribute of her lays.
LOND. MAG. June 1785.

'Tis his to bid neglected genius glow,
And teach the regal bounty how to flow.
His tutelary scepter's sway
The vindicated arts obey,
And hail their patron king;
'Tis his, to judgement's steady line
Their flights fantastic to confine
And yet expand their wing;
The fleeting forms of fashion to restrain,
And bind capricious taste in truth's eternal chain.
Sculpture, licentious now no more,
From Greece her great example takes,
With nature's warmth the marble wakes,
And spurns the toys of modern lore:
In native beauty simply plann'd,
Corinth, thy tufted shafts ascend;
The Graces guide the painter's hand
His magic mimicry to blend.
While such the gifts his reign bestows,
Amid the proud display,
Those gems around the throne he throws
That shed a foster ray;
While from the summits of sublime renown
He wafts his favour's universal gale;
3 K With

With those sweet flowers he binds a crown,
That bloom in Virtue's humble vale:
With rich munificence, the nuptial tie
Unbroken, he combines:
Conspicuous, in a nation's eye,
The sacred pattern shines!
Fair Science to reform, reward, and raise,
To spread the lustre of domestic praise;
To foster emulation's holy flame,
To build Society's majestic frame;
Mankind to polish and to teach
Be this the monarch's aim;
Above ambition's giant-reach
The monarch's meed to claim.

PROBATIONARY ODES

Presented by the candidates for the laurel, on the death of Mr. Whitehead.

IRREGULAR ODE.

The words by Sir Cecil Wray, Bart.

The spelling by Mr. Grojan, Attorney at law.

HARK! hark!—hip! hip!—hoh! hoh!
What a mart of bards are a singing!
Athwart—across—below,
I'm sure there's a dozen a dinging!
I hear sweet shells, loud harps, large lyres—
Some, I trow, are tun'd by 'squires—
Some by priests, and some by lords!—while Joe
and I
Our bloody hands hoist up, like meteors, on high!
Yes, Joe and I
Are em'lous!—Why?
It is because great Cæsar you are clever—
Therefore we'd sing of you for ever!
Sing—sing—sing—sing—
God save the King!
Smile then, Cæsar, smile on Wray!
Crown at last his poll with bay!—
Come, oh! bay, and with thee bring
Salary, illustrious thing!—
Laurels vain of Covent-Garden,
I don't value you a farding!—
Let sack my soul cheer,
For 'tis sick of small beer!
Cæsar! Cæsar! give it—do!
Great Cæsar giv't all, for my muse 'doreth you!
Oh! fairest of the heavenly Nine,
Enchanting *Syntax*, muse divine;
Whether on Phæbus' hoary head,
By blue-ey'd Rhadamanthus led,
Or with young Helicon you stray,
Where mad Parnassus, points the way;—
Goddeſs of Elizium's hill,
Descend upon my Pæan's quill.—
The light nymph hears—no more
By Pegasus' meandering shore,
Ambrosia, playful boy,
Plumps her *je ne ſcai quoi!*—
I mount!—I mount!—
I'm half a lark—I'm half an eagle!
Twelve stars I count—
I ſee their dam—ſhe is a beagle!
Ye royal little ones,
I love your fleſh and bones—
You are an arch, rear'd with immortal ſtones!
Hibernia ſtrikes his harp!
Shuttle, fly!—woof! web! warp!

Far, far, from me and you,
In latitude North 52.—
Rebellion's huſh'd,
The merchant's fluſh'd!—
Hail awful Brunſwick! Saxe-Gotha hail!
Not George, but Louis, now ſhall turn his tail!
Thus, aſar from mad debate,
Like an old wren
With my good hen,
Or a young gander,
Am a bye-ſtander,
To all the peacock pride, and vain regards of ſtate!
Yet if the laurel prize,
Dearer than my eyes,
Curs'd Warton tries
For to ſurprize,
By the eternal Jove I'll SCRUTINISE!

O D E,

By Sir JOSEPH MAWBEY, Bart.

STROPHE.

HARK! to yon heavenly ſkies,
Nature's congenial perfumes upwards riſe!
From each throng'd ſtye
That ſaw my gladſome eye,
Incenſe, quite ſinoaking hot, aroſe,
And caught my *ſeven ſweet ſenſes*—by the noſe!

AIR (accompanied by the learned Pig.)

Tell me, dear Muſe, oh! tell me, pray,
Why Joey's fancy friſks ſo gay?
Is it?—You ſlut it is—ſome *holy-holiday!*
[*Here Muſe whiſpers I, Sir Joſeph.*
Indeed?—Repeat the fragrant ſound!
Puſh love, and loyalty around,
Through Iriſh, Scotch, as well as Britiſh ground!

CHORUS.

For this BIG MORN
GREAT GEORGE was born!
The tidings all the Poles ſhall ring!
Due homage will I pay,
On this, thy native day,
George, by the grace of God, my rightful King!

AIR—with Lutes.

Well, might my dear lady ſay,
As lamb-like by her ſide I lay,
This very, very morn;
Hark! Joey, hark!
I hear the lark,
Or elſe it is—the ſweet *ſowgelder's* horn!

ANTISTROPHE.

Forth, from their ſtyes, the briftly victims lead;
A ſcore of hogs, flat on their backs, ſhall bleed.
Mind they be ſuch, on which good gods might feaſt!

And that

In lily fat,

They cut ſix inches on the ribs, at leaſt!

DUET—with Marrow-bones and Cleavers.

Butcher and Cook begin!

We'll have a royal greaſy chin!

Tit bits, ſo nice, and rare,

Prepare! Prepare!

Let none abſtain,

Refrain!

I'll give 'em pork in plenty—cut, and come
again!

RECITATIVE.

RECITATIVE.

Hog! porker! roaster! boar-stag! barbicue!
 Cheeks! chines! crow! chitterlines! and haselet
 new!
 Springs! spare-ribs! saufages! sous'd-lugs! and face!
 With piping-hot pease-pudding, plenteous place!
 Hands! hocks! hams! haggifs, with high seas'n-
 ing fill'd!
 Gammons! green griskins, on gridirons grill'd!
 Liver! and lights! from plucks that moment
 drawn,
 Pigs puddings! black and white! with Canter-
 bury brawn!

T R I O.

Fall too

Ye royal crew!

Eat! eat your bellies full! pray do;

At treats I never winces;

The Q——n shall say,

Once in a way,

Her maids have been well cramm'd—her young
 ones din'd like princes!

FULL CHORUS—*accompanied by the whole
 Hoggery.*

For this BIG MORN

GREAT GEORGE was born!

The tidings all the Poles shall ring!

Due homage will I pay,

On this thy native day,

George! by the grace of God, my rightful King!

IRREGULAR ODE.

By Major JOHN SCOTT, M. P. &c.

WHY does the loitering sun retard his wain,
 When this glad hour demands a fiercer ray?
 Not so he pours his fire on Delhi's plain,
 To hail the Lord of Asia's natal day.
 There in mute pomp and cross-legg'd state,
 The Raja Poets MOHAMMED SHAH await.

There Malabar,

There Bishnagar,

There Oude and proud Bahar, in joy confederate!

Curs'd be the clime, and curs'd the laws, that lay
 Insulting bonds, on George's sovereign sway.

Arise, my soul, on wings of fire,

To God's anointed, tune the lyre;

Hail, George, thou all-accomplish'd King!

Just type of him who rules on high!

Hail! inexhausted, boundless spring

Of sacred truth, and holy majesty!

Grand is thy form—'bout five feet ten,

Thou well-built, worthiest, best of men!

Thy chest is stout, thy back is broad—

Thy pages view thee, and are aw'd.

Lo! how thy white eyes roll!

Thy whiter eye-brows stare!

Honest soul!

Thou'rt witty, as thou'rt fair!

North of the drawing-room, a closet stands;

The sacred nook St. James's Park commands!

Here, in sequester'd state, great George receives

Memorials, treaties, and long lists of thieves!

Here all the force of sov'reign thought is bent,

To fix reviews, or change a government!

Heav'n's! how each word with joy Caermarthen
 takes!

Gods! how the lengthen'd chin of Sidney shakes!

Blessing and blest'd the sage associates see,
 The proud, triumphant league of incapacity.

With subtle smiles,

With innate wiles,

How do thy tricks of state, great George, abound?

So in thy Hampton's mazy ground,

The path that wanders

In meanders

Ever bending,

Never ending,

Winding runs the eternal round.

Perplex'd, involv'd, each thought bewilder'd
 moves,

In short, quick turns the gay confusion roves;

Contending themes the embarrass'd listener baulk,

Lost in the labyrinths of the devious talk!

Now shall the levee's ease thy soul unbend,

Fatigu'd with loyalty's feverer care;

Oh! happy few! whom brighter stars befriend;

Who catch the chat, the witty whisper share.

Methinks I hear,

In accents clear,

Great Brunswick's voice still vibrate on my ear.

"What?—what?—what!"

"Scott!—Scott!—Scott!"

"Hot!—hot!—hot!"

"What?—what?—what!"

Oh! fancy quick! Oh! judgement true!

Oh! sacred oracle of regal state!

So hasty and so generous too!

Not one of all thy questions will an answer wait!

Vain, vain, O Muse! thy feeble art,

To paint the beauties of that head and heart!

That head, that hangs on many a sign!

That heart, where all the virtues join!

Monarch of mighty Albion, check thy talk!

Behold the *squad* approach, led on by *Palk*!

Old *Barwell*, *Call*, *Vanfittart* from the band!

Lord of Britannia!—let them kiss thy hand!

For, *sniff*! * rich Eastern odours scent the sphere!

'Tis Mrs. Hastings' felt brings up the rear!

Gods! how her diamonds flock

On each unpowder'd lock!

On every membrane see a topaz clings!

And, lo! her joints are fewer than her rings!

Illustrious dame! on either ear,

The *Munny-Begum*'s spoils appear.

Oh! Pitt, with awe behold that precious throat,

Whose necklace teems with many a future vote;

Pregnant with *burgage* gems, each hand she rears;

And lo! depending *questions* gleam upon her ears.

Take her great George, and shake her by the hand,

'Twill loose her jewels, and enrich thy land.

But, oh! reserve one ring for an old stager,

The ring of future marriage for her Major!

DUAN. In the true *Offian* Sublimity.

By Mr. MACPHERSON.

DOES the wind touch thee, O harp?

Or is it some passing ghost?

Is it thy hand,

Spirit of the departed *Scrutiny*?

Bring me the harp, pride of Chatham!

Snow is on thy bosom,

Maid of the modest eye!

A song shall rue!

Every soul shall depart at the sound!

3 K 2

The

* Sniff is a new interjection for the sense of smelling.

The wither'd thistle shall crown my head!
 I behold thee, O King!
 I behold thee sitting on mist!
 Thy form is like a watery cloud,
 Singing in the deep like an oyster!
 Thy face is like the beams of the setting moon!
 Thy eyes are of two decaying flames!
 Thy nose is like the spear of Rollo!
 Thy ears are like three bossy shields!
 Strangers shall rejoice at thy chin!
 The ghosts of dead Tories shall hear me
 In their airy hall!
 The wither'd thistle shall crown my head!
 Bring me the harp,
 Son of Chatham!
 But thou, O King! give me the lance!

ODE on the NEW YEAR.

By LORD M——VE.

STROPHE.

O For a muse of fire,
 With blazing thumbs to touch my torpid
 lyre!
 Now, in the darksome regions round the Pole,
 Tygers fierce, and lions bold,
 With wild alflight would see the snow hills roll,
 Their sharp teeth chattering with the cold—
 But that lions dwell not there—
 Nor beast, nor Christian—none but the *White*
Bear!

The white bear howls amid the tempest's roar,
 And listening whales swim headlong from y shore!

ANTISTROPHE—(By Brother Harry.)

Farewell awhile, ye summer breezes!

What is the life of man?

A span!

Sometimes it thaws, sometimes it freezes,
 Just as it pleases!

If Heav'n decrees, fierce whirlwinds rend the air,
 And then again (behold!) 'tis fair!

Thus peace and war on earth alternate reign:

Auspicious George, thy powerful word

Gives peace to France and Spain,

And sheaths the martial sword!

STROPHE II.—(By Brother Charles.)

And now gay hope her anchor dropping,
 And blue-eyed Peace, and black-eyed Pleasures,
 And Plenty, in light cadence hopping,
 Fain would dance to Whitehead's measures.
 But Whitehead now in death reposes,
 Crown'd with laurel! crown'd with roses!
 Yet we with laurel crown'd his dirge will sing,
 And thus deserve fresh laurels from the King.

O D E.

By Sir RICHARD HILL, Bart.

HAIL pious Muse of faintly love,
 Unmix'd, unstain'd with earthly dross!
 Hail Muse of Methodism, above
 The Royal Mews at Charing-Cross!
 Behold both hands I raise,
 Behold both knees I bend;
 Behold both eye-balls gaze!
 Quick, Muse, descend, descend!
 Meek Muse of *Madden*, thee my soul invokes—
 Oh joint my pious puns, oh sanctify my jokes!

Descend! and, oh! in mem'ry keep—
 There's a time to wake—a time to sleep—
 A time to laugh—a time to cry—
 The Bible says so—so do I!—
 Then broad-awake, oh! come to me,
 And thou my *Eastern star* shalt be!

MILLER, bard of deathless name,
 MOSES, wag of merry fame;
 Holy, holy, holy pair,
 Harken to your vot'ry's pray'r,
 Grant, that like Solomon's of old,
 My faith be still in Proverbs told;
 Like his, let my religion be
 Conundrums of divinity;

And, oh! to mine, let each strong charm belong,
 That breathes fallacious in the *wife man's* song;
 And thou, sweet bard, for ever dear
 To each impassion'd, love-fraught ear,
 Soft, luxuriant ROCHESTER!
 Descend, and ev'ry tint bestow,
 That gives to phrase, its ardent glow;
 From thee, thy willing Hill shall learn
 Thoughts that melt, and words that burn:
 Then smile, oh! gracious smile on this petition!
 So Solomon, gay Wilmot, join'd with thee,
 Shall shew the world, that such a thing can be
 As strange to tell!—*a virtuous coalition*—

Thou too, thou dread and awful shade,
 Of dear-departed Will. Whitehead,
 Look through the blue æthereal skies,
 And view me with propitious eyes!
 Whether thou most delight'st to loiter
 On Sion's top, or near the Pole!
 Bend from thy *mountains*, and remember still,
 The wants and wishes of a lesser *Hill*!
 Then like Elijah, fled to realms above,
 To me, thy friend, bequeath thy hallow'd cloak,
 That by its virtue Richard may improve,
 And in *thy habit* preach, and pun, and joke!

The Lord doth give—the Lord doth take away;
 Then good Lord Sal'sbury attend to me,
 Banish these sons of Belial in dismay;
 And give the prize to a true Pharisee:
 For sure of all the *scribes* that Israel curst,
 These *scribes* poetic, are by far the worst.
 To thee, my Samson, unto thee I call—
 Exert thy *jaw*, and straight disperse them all—
 So as in former times, the Philistines shall fall!

Then as 'twas th' beginning,
 So to th' end 't shall be;
 My Muse will ne'er leave singing,
 The Lord of Salisbury!

O D E.

By the ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

INDITE, my Muse!—indite!—*subpœna'd*
 is thy lyre!
 The praises to record, which rules of court require!
 'Tis thou, O Clio! Muse divine,
 And best of all the *Council Nine*,
 Must plead my cause!—Great Hatfield's Cecil
 bids me sing,—
 The tallest, fittest man, to walk before the King!
 Of Sal'sbury's Earls, the first (so tells th' historic
 page)
 'Twas Nature's will to make most wonderfully
 sage;

But

But then, as if too lib'ral to his mind,
She made him crook'd before, and crook'd be-
hind*.

'Tis not, thank Heav'n! my Cecil, so with thee;
Thou last of Cecils, but unlike the first;—
Thy body bears no mark'd deformity:

The gods decreed, and *judgement was revers'd!*
For veins of science are like veins of gold!

Pure, for a time, they run;

They end as they begun—

Alas! in nothing but a heap of mould!

Shall I, by eloquence controul,
Or challenge send to mighty ROLLE,
Whene'er on peers he vents his gall?

Uplift my hands to pull his nose,
And twist and pinch it, 'till it grows
Like mine, aside, and small?

Say, by what *process* may I once obtain
A *verdict*, Lord, nor let me *sue* in vain!

In Commons, and in courts below,

My *actions* have been try'd—

There clients, who pay most, *you know*,

Retain the strongest side!

True to these terms, I preach'd in politics for Pitt,
And Kenyon's *law* maintain'd against his sov'-
reign's writ!

What tho' my father be a porpus,
He may be mov'd by *babeas corpus*—

Or by a *call*, whene'er the state,

Or Pitt requires his vote and weight—

I tender bail for Bootle's warm support,
Of all the plans of ministers and court!

And, oh! should Mrs. Arden bless me with a child,
A lovely boy, as beauteous as myself, and mild;

The little *Pepper* would some caudle lack:

Then think of Arden's wife,

My pretty *plaintiff's* life,

The best of caudle's made of best of sack!

Let thy decree

But favour me,

My bills and briefs, rebutters and detainers,

To Archy I'll resign

Without a fee or fine,

Attachments, replications, and retainers!

To Juries, Bench, Exchequer, Seals,

To Chancery Court, and Lords I'll bid adieu:

No more demurters nor appeals;—

My writs of error shall be judg'd by you!

And if perchance great Doctor Arnold should re-
tire,

Fatigu'd with all the troubles of St. James's choir;

My odes two merits should unite:

+ Bearcroft, my friend,

His aid will lend,

And set to music all I write!

Let me, then, Chamberlain, without a *flaw*;

For June the fourth prepare,

The praises of the King

In *legal* lays to sing,

Until they rend the air,

And prove my equal fame in *poesy* and *law*!

O D E,

By WILLIAM WRAXALL, Esq. M. P.

MURRAIN seise the House of Commons,
Hoarse catarrh their windpipes shake,
Who, deaf to travell'd learning's summons,
Rudely cough'd whene'er I spake!

North nor Fox's thund'ring course,
Nor e'en the Speaker, tyrant, shall have force
To save thy walls from nightly breaches,
From Wraxall's votes, from Wraxall's speeches.

Geography, terraqueous maid,

Descend from globes to statesmen's aid!

Again to heedless crowds unfold

Truths unheard, though not untold:

Come, and once more unlock this vasty world—
Nations attend! the map of earth's unfurl'd.

Begin the song, from where the Rhine,

The Elbe, the Danube, Weser rolls—

Joseph, nine circles, forty seas are thine—

Thine, twenty million souls—

Upon a marish flat and dank

States, Six and One,

Dam the dykes, the seas embank,

Maugre the Don!

A gridiron's form the proud Escorial rears,

While south of Vincent's Cape anchovies glide;

But, ah! o'er Tagus, once auriferous tide,

A priest-rid Queen, Braganza's sceptre bears—

Hard fate! that Lisbon's diet-drink is known

To cure each crazy *constitution* but her own.

I burn, I burn, I glow, I glow,

With antique and with modern lore;

I rush from Bosphorus to Po,

To Nilus from the Nore.

Why were thy Pyramids, O Egypt! rais'd,

But to be measur'd, and be prais'd?

Avaunt, ye crocodiles! your threats are vain!

On Norway's seas, my soul, unshaken,

Brav'd the sea-snake and the craken;

And shall I heed the river's scaly train?

Afric, I scorn thy alligator band!

Quadrant in hand

I take my stand,

And eye thy moss-clad needle, Cleopatra grand!

O, that great Pompey's pillar were my own!

Eighty-eight feet the shaft, and allone stone!

But hail, ye lost Athenians!

Hail also, ye Armenians!

Hail once ye Greeks, ye Romans, Carthaginians!

Twice hail ye Turks, and thrice ye Abyssinians!

Hail too, O Lapland, with thy squirrels airy!

Hail, commerce-catching Tipperary!

Hail, wonder-working Magi!

Hail, Ourang-Outang! hail, Anthropophagi!

Hail, all ye cabinets of every state,

From poor Marino's hill, to Catherine's empire
great! [seem to think,

All, all have chiefs, who speak, who write, who
Caermarthens, Sydneys, Rutlands, paper, pens,
and ink.

Thus, thro' all climes, to earth's remotest goal,
From burning Indus to the freezing Pole,

In

* Rapin observes that Robert Cecil, the first Earl of Salisbury, was of a great genius, and though crooked before and behind, Nature supplied that defect with noble endowments of mind.

+ This gentleman is a great performer upon the piano forte, as well as the speaking trumpet and Jew's harp.

In chaises, and on floats,
 In dillies, and in boats,
 Now on a camel's native stool,
 Now on an ass, now on a mule,
 Nabobs and Rajahs have I seen:
 Old Bramins mild, young Arabs keen;
 Tall polygars,
 Dwarf zemindars,
 Mahomet's tomb, Killarney's lake, the fane of
 Ammon, [Salmon!
 With all thy kings and queens, ingenious Mrs.
 Yet vain the majesties of wax,
 Vain the cut velvet on their backs—
 George, mighty George, is flesh and blood—
 No head he wants of wax or wood;
 His heart is good!
 (As a King's thou'd)
 And every thing he says is understood.

ODE on the BIRTH-DAY.

By MICHAEL ANGELO TAYLOR, Esq.
*M. P. only son of Sir Robert Taylor, Knt.
 and late Sheriff; also Sub-Deputy Vice-
 Chairman to the Irish Committee, Welsh Judge
 elect, &c. &c.*

HAIL, all hail, thou natal day,
 Hail the very half hour, I say,
 On which great George was born!
 Though scarcely fledg'd, I'll try my wing—
 And though, alas! I cannot sing,
 I'll crow on this illustrious morn!
 Sweet bird, that chirp'st the note of folly,
 So pleasantly, so drolly!—
 Thee oft, the stable-yards among,
 I woo, and emulate thy song!
 Thee, for my emblem still I choose!
 Oh! with thy voice inspire a *Chicken of the Muse!*

Thee too my *fluttering* Muse invokes,
 Thy guardian aid I beg,
 Thou great *Assessor*, fam'd for jokes,
 For jokes of face and leg!
 So may I oft thy stage-box grace,
 (The first in beauty as in place)
 And smile, responsive to thy changeful face!
 For say, renowned mimic, say,
 Did e'er a merrier crowd obey
 Thy laugh-provoking summons,
 Than with fond glee, enraptur'd sit,
 Whene'er with *undefining wit*,
 I entertain the Common?

Lo! how I shine St. Stephen's boast!
 There, first of *chicks*, I rule the *roast!*

There I appear,
 Pitt's chanticleer,

The bantam cock to oppositions!

Or like a hen,
 With watchful ken,

Sit close and hatch—the Irish Propositions?

Behold, for this great day of pomp and pleasure,
 The House adjourns, and I'm at leisure!

If thou art so, come, Muse of sport,

With a few rhymes,

Delight the times,

And coax the critic buffo, and enchant the court!

By Heaven she come!—more swift than prose,

At her command, my metre flows!

Hence ye weak warblers of the rival lays!
 Avaunt, ye wrens, ye gollings, and ye pies!
 The *Chick of Law* shall win the prize,
 The *Chick of Law* shall peck the bays!
 So, when again the state demands our care,
 Fierce in my laurel'd pride, I'll take the chair!
 Gilbert, I catch thy bright invention,
 With somewhat more of *sound retention* *!
 But never, never on thy *prose* I'll border—
 Verse, lofty-sounding verse, shall *call to order*!
 Come, sacred Nine—come, one and all,
 Attend your fav'rite chairman's call!
 Oh! if I well have chirp'd your brood among,
 Point my keen eye, and tune my brazen tongue!
 And hark! with elegiac graces,
 "I beg that gentlemen may take their places!"
 Didactic Muse, with measur'd state,
 Be thine to harmonize debate!
 Thine, mighty Clio, to resound from far,
 "—The door, the door!—the bar, the bar!"
 Stout Pearson damns around, at her dread word;
 "Sit down," cries Clementson, and grasps his
 silver sword!

But, lo! where Pitt appears, to move
 Some new resolve of hard digestion!
 Wake then, my Muse, thy gentler notes of love,
 And in persuasive numbers, *put the question*.
 The question's gain'd!—the Treasury bench
 rejoice! [mightiest voice!"
 "All hail, thou *least* of men (they cry) with
 —Blest sounds! my ravish'd eye surveys
 Ideal ermins, fancied bays!
 Rapt in St. Stephen's future scenes,
 I sit perpetual chairman of the *Ways and Means*.
 Stop, stop, ye bricklayer-crew, my fire to praise,
 His mightier offspring claims impartial lays!
 The father climb'd the ladder, with a hod,
 The son, like *General Jackoo*, jumps alone, by
 God!

ODE for NEW YEAR'S DAY,

By Sir GREGORY PAGE TURNER, Bart.
*M. P. Lord Warden of Blackheath, and
 Ranger of Greenwich-Hill, during the Christ-
 mas and Easter Holidays.*

STROPHE.

O Day of high career!
 First of a month—nay, more—first of a
 year!
 A monarch day, that hath indeed no peer!
 Let huge *Buzaglos* glow
 In ev'ry corner of the isle,
 To melt away the snow:
 And like to May,
 Be this month gay;
 And with her at hop—step—jump, play;
 Dance, grin, and smile!
 Ye, too, ye *maids of honour*, young and old,
 Shall each be seen,
 With a neat *warming* patentized *machine*!
 Because, 'tis said, that *chastity* is cold!

ANTISTROPHE.

But, ah! no roses meet the fight;
 Nor *yellow* buds of *saffron* hue,
 Nor *azure* blossoms of *pale blue*,
 Nor tulips, pinks, &c. delight.

* No reflection on the organization of Mr. Gilbert's brain, is intended here; but rather a pathetic reflection on the continual diabetes of so great a member!

Yet on fine *tiffany*, will I
 My genius try,
 The spoils of Flora to supply,
 Or say my name's not GREGO—RY!
 An *artificial* garland will I bring,
 That Clement Cottrell shall declare,
 With courtly air,
 Fit for a Prince, fit for a King!

EPODE.

Ye *millinery fair*,
 To me, ye Muses are;
 Ye are to me Parnassus' mount!
 In you, I find an Aganippe fount!
 I venerate your muffs,
 I bow and kiss your ruffs.

Inspire me, O ye sisters of the *frill*,
 And teach your votarist how to *quill*!
 For, oh!—'tis true indeed,
 That he can scarcely read!—
 Teach him to *flounce*, and disregard all quippery,
 As crapes and blonds, and such like frippery;
 Teach him to *trim* and *whip* from side to side,
 And *puff*, as long as puffing can be tried.
 In *crimping* metaphor, he'll dash on,
 For *point* you know is out of fashion.
 O crown with bay his tete,
 Delpini, arbiter of fate!
 Nor at the trite conceit, let witlings sport,
 A PAGE should be a *dangler* at the court.

LITERARY REVIEW.

ARTICLE CXXIV.

A Treatise on Cancers, with a new and successful Method of operating, particularly in Cancers of the Breast and Testis, &c. By Henry Fearon, Surgeon to the Surrey Dispensary. 8vo.

AS it seems to be a truth too well established in the healing art, that a radical cure of cancer is only to be obtained by excision: it is certainly the duty, and ought to be the study of every practitioner to render the operation as tolerable, as safe, and as effectual as it is possible to do: that so, the terrifying ideas which are so generally entertained of it may, in part, be done away, and many miserable patients may, in consequence, be preserved from death, by submitting to a treatment, to which they would otherwise never have consented.

It was with such laudable views as these, that the author of the present pamphlet turned his attention to the surgical management of cancerous affections of the glandular parts, and more particularly of the breast and testis. He observed that the operation in these cases, in the manner in which it is usually performed, is not only productive of excruciating pain for the time, but that also, on account of the unnecessary removal of a great portion of the teguments and cellular membrane, a large wound is made, which, from the injudicious way of dressing it at first, does not afterwards speedily heal.

These circumstances led him to think of making some alterations in the or-

dinary mode of operation; and this he has accordingly done.

The method of operating, as recommended by the author, "consists in dissecting away all the diseased part of the breast or testis, through one simple, longitudinal incision, large enough to admit of the perfect removal of all the diseased part or parts, and then bringing the edges of the wound into contact, and retaining them in that situation by slips of sticking plaster, ligature, or both if necessary, 'till they unite by what is called the first intention." A very considerable improvement; since by it, much pain under the use of the knife, and much time in the healing of the wound are saved, and much deformity is afterwards avoided.—Some account of this method of operating, as the author informs us in the preface to his treatise, was formerly published by Dr. Simmons in the London Medical Journal. This circumstance, together with some others, the author has thought proper to mention, in order to show that he was the first introducer of this improved practice, which, it should seem, some other surgeon in London, whose name, from motives of delicacy, is concealed, has very uncandidly arrogated to himself.

The author appears to be of the opinion

nion of Mr. John Hunter, that cancer is, at first, a local disease; and, consequently, he places little faith in internal medicines. He strenuously recommends early operation; and relates, towards the end of the pamphlet, two cases which show the great danger of delay.

In confirmation of the advantages of the mode of operation and after-treatment which he proposes, the author relates several cases which fell under his own care, and which are selected, as he says, from the worst of those in which he has operated. Of these one only proved finally unsuccessful, and even from this case, the practicability and advantage, he observes, of uniting the parts by the first intention are rendered apparent.

On the treatment of cancerous complaints in which the operation cannot be attempted, the observations of the author are not very many. He has found hemlock and opium to act as

palliatives only, and even that but for a time. They answer best in alleviating the sufferings of the patient when exhibited alternately.

With regard to external applications; he has found a poultice of linseed meal preferable to any other, "its mucilaginous and adhesive quality rendering it more easily removed, and keeping the sore cleaner."

The author has drawn up his treatise with great modesty: and, on account of the improvement which it proposes, it certainly deserves the attention of those of the profession. We cannot help thinking, however, that the saving of the teguments and the union of the parts by the first intention, the two great improvements here proposed, if they have not been written upon, have, at least, been practised, though not so completely, as well in these as in other operations, by some surgeons farther back than the author imagines. P.

ART. CXXV. *The History of Great-Britain.* By Dr. Henry. 4to. 5 Vols. Cadell.

THE design of this work is, to give the reader a concise account of the most important events which have happened in Great-Britain, from the first invasion of it by the Romans under Julius Cæsar to the present times; together with a distinct view of the religion, laws, learning, arts, commerce, and manners of its inhabitants, in every age between these two periods.

To accomplish this design within as narrow limits as possible, the author hath endeavoured to express every thing in the fewest and plainest words, and to arrange his materials in the most regular order, according to the following plan.

The whole work is divided into ten books. Each book begins and ends at some remarkable revolution, and contains the history and delineation of the first of these revolutions, and of the intervening period. Every one of these ten books is uniformly divided into seven chapters, which do not carry on the thread of the history one after another, as in other works of this kind; but all the seven chapters of the same

book begin at the same point of time, run parallel to one another, and end together; each chapter presenting the reader with the history of one particular object. For example:

The first chapter of each book contains the Civil and Military History of Great-Britain, in the period which is the subject of that book. The second chapter of the same book contains the History of Religion, or the Ecclesiastical History of Britain in the same period. The third chapter contains the History of our Constitution, Government, Laws, and Courts of Justice. The fourth chapter comprehends the History of Learning, of learned Men, and of the chief Seminaries of Learning. The fifth chapter contains the History of the Arts, both useful and ornamental, necessary and pleasing. The sixth chapter is employed in giving the History of Commerce, of Shipping, of Money or Coin, and of the Prices of Commodities. The seventh and last chapter of the same book contains the History of the Manners, Virtues, Vices, remarkable Customs, Language, Dress, Diet,

Diet, and Diversions of the people of Great-Britain, in the same period. This plan is regularly and strictly pursued from the beginning to the end of this work: so that each of the ten books of which it consists, may be considered as a complete work in itself, as far as it reaches; and also as a perfect pattern and model of all the other books.

N. B. The first volume of this work contains the History of Britain according to the above plan, from the first invasion of the Romans, A. A. C. 55, to the arrival of the Saxons, A. D. 449, pp. 578.

The second volume contains the History of Britain from the arrival of

the Saxons, A. D. 449, to the landing of William Duke of Normandy, A. D. 1066. pp. 621.

The third volume contains the History of Britain from the landing of William Duke of Normandy, A. D. 1066, to the death of King John, A. D. 1216. pp. 628.

The fourth volume continues the same History from the death of King John, A. D. 1216, to the accession of Henry IV. A. D. 1399. pp. 627.

The fifth volume, which is just published, carries on the work from the accession of Henry IV. A. D. 1399, to the accession of Henry VII. A. D. 1485.

ART. CXXVI. *SHOOTING: A Poem.* 4to. 2s. 6d. Faulder. 1784.

THOUGH genius be indispensably requisite for every species of poetical composition, there are some that may be tolerably executed with but a moderate share of it. Of these none seems to require a less exertion of intellectual powers, than the didactic. Of this circumstance the poet is apt to avail himself; for how frequently is it, that finding his materials, for the most part, ready collected to his hands, he concludes that, when these are properly arranged, and put into decent verse, his task is completed; and, indeed, if the poet's reputation depended on the absence of faults rather than the exhibition of beauties, no one could reasonably think he had done less than his undertaking required of him: but negative merit ought not to usurp the praise that is due only to positive excellence. How far will the preceding remark apply to the poem before us? To answer this question properly, it will be necessary to give a slight analysis of the work.

The poem opens with an invocation to the sylvan muse, and an observation that the exercise of shooting is an useful preparative for the profession of arms. The poet hence glides into an apology for the choice of his subject, on which he then immediately enters. Having enumerated the necessary apparatus of a sportsman, he commences the preceptive part of his

poem with partridge-shooting; which, it must be acknowledged, he has described with accuracy and animation:

"Here, where the yellow wheat away is drawn,
And the thick stubble clothes the russet lawn,
Begin the sport.—Eager and unconfin'd
As when stern *Æolus* unchains the wind,
The active pointer, from his thong unbound,
Impatient dashes o'er the dewy ground,
With glowing eye, and undulating tail,
Ranges the field, and snuffs the tainted gale;
Yet, 'midst his ardour, still his master fears,
And the restraining whistle careful hears.
So when Britannia's watchful navies sweep,
In Freedom's awful cause, the hostile deep,
Tho' the brave warrior panting to engage,
And loose on England's foes his patriot rage,
The tempest's howling fury deems too slow
To fill his sails and waft him to the foe;
Yet, 'midst the fiery conflict, if he spy
From the high mast his leader's signal fly,
To the command obedience instant pays,
And martial order martial courage sways.

"See how exact they try the stubble o'er,
Quarter the field, and every turn explore;
Now sudden wheel, and now attentive seize
The known advantage of th' opposing breeze.—
At once they stop!—yon' careful dog descries
Where close and near the lurking covey lies.
His caution mark, lest even a breath betray
Th' impending danger to his timid prey;
In various attitudes around him stand,
Silent and motionless, the attending band,
So when the son of Danae and of Jove,
Crown'd by gay conquest and successful love,
Saw Phineus and his frantic rout invade
The festive rights by Hymen sacred made,
To the rude Bacchanals his arm outspread
The horrid image of Medusa's head;
Soon as the locks their snaky curls disclose,
A marble stiffness seiz'd his threatening foes;
Fix'd were y' eyes that mark'd y' javelin thrown,
And each stern warrior rear'd his lance in stone.

" Now by the glowing cheek and heaving breast
Is expectation's sanguine wish express'd.—
Ah curb your headlong ardour! nor refuse
Patient to hear the precepts of the Muse.
Sooner shall noisy heat in rash dispute,
The reasoning calm of placid sense confute;
Sooner the headlong rout's misguided rage
With the firm phalanx equal combat wage,
Than the warm youth, whom anxious hopes in-
flame,

Pursue the fleeting mark with steady aim.
By temp'rate thought your glowing passions cool,
And bow the swelling heart to reason's rule;
Else when the whirring pinion, as it flies;
Alarms your startled ear, and dazzled eyes,
Unguided by the cautious arm of care,
Your random bolts shall waste their force in air.

" They rise!—they rise!—Ah yet your fire
restrain,
Till the 'maz'd birds securer distance gain;
For, thrown too close, the shots your hopes elude,
Wide of your aim, and innocent of blood;
But mark with careful eye their lessening flight,
Your ready gun obedient to your sight,
And at the length where frequent trials shew,
Your fatal weapon gives the surest blow,
Draw quick!—yet steady care & quickness join,
Lest the shock'd barrel deviate from the line,
So shall success your ardent wishes pay,
And sure destruction wait the flying prey."

A caution against carelessness, when shooting in parties, introduces an episode, taken from the first book of Heroditus, of Atys accidentally killed by Adrastus, as they were engaged in the pursuit of the chace. To this episode it may be objected, that it not only occupies a greater share of the poet's attention than its importance demanded, it extending nearly through a third of the poem; but that it hath too slight a connexion with the subject, and, from its remote antiquity, does not sufficiently blend with the rest of the performance, which is necessarily confined to objects of the present moment. An episode, formed upon some one of the many fatal accidents that have happened in modern times, from following this sanguinary amusement in company, might have been introduced with much greater propriety, and could scarcely have failed to prove both interesting and pathetic.

The episode being dismissed, the poet resumes this subject, and successively proceeds to pheasant, woodcock, hare, snipe, water-fowl, and moor-game shooting. A few general precepts conclude the poem. As a farther specimen of which, may be given

the following extract. The admonition, indeed, which it contains, is certainly of more consequence than all the other precepts of the art united.

" More hurtful still to try, with distant blow,
To bring the percher from th' aerial bough.
How shall his thoughts the level that prepare
With all the caution of mechanic care,
Exact and steady as the sage's eye
Thro' Galileo's tube surveys the sky,
With ready view the transient object seize,
Swift as the motion of the rapid breeze,
Pursue the uncertain mark with swift address,
And catch the fleeting moment of success?

" Ere yet the Muse her lay perceptive end,
Ye eager youths these friendly rules attend:
'Tis not enough, that cautious aim, and sure,
From erring shots your brave compeers secure,
That prudence guard those ills & erst might flow
From the wing'd javelin, and the sounding bow;
For on the gun unnumber'd dangers wait,
And various forms of unexpected fate.
Drawn thro' the thorny hedge the uncertain lock
May give, with sudden spring, a deadly shock;
Or the loose spark the rapid flash may raise,
And wrap the sulphurous dust in instant blaze.

" 'Tis hence the military race prepare
The novice youth with such assiduous care,
And teach him, with punctilious art, to wield
The weighty firelock in the embattled field.
Tho' some may deem the attention urg'd too far,
As the mere pomp and circumstance of war;
When closely wedged the firm battalions stand,
Rank press'd on rank, and band impelling band;
Did not fastidious zeal with cautious plan
Define each act, and every motion scan,
Oft would the bullet, 'mid the battle's roar,
The thirsty herbage dye with friendly gore,
And oft the dangerous weapon's kindling breath
Change fields of exercise, to fields of death.

" Behold yon' eager rage who o'er the plain,
With stimulating heel and loosen'd rein,
Their panting courfers urge to leave behind
The rapid currents of the northern wind,
Tho' as with headlong rage they rush along,
Impending dangers seem to wait the throng;
Tho' accident with more apparent face
Seem to attend the ardour of the chase;
Yet, 'midst these calmer sports with ghastly mein
The pallid form of slaughter lurks unseen;
And, while the hunter checks his bold career
To pour on Ruffel's tomb the sorrowing tear,
The sportive train who haunt the fatal glades,
Where hoary Camus flows by Granta's shades,
Shall weep the unexpected blow that gave
Their much-loved Cotton to a timeless grave.
Lamented youth! when erst on Warley's plains
We led in radiant arms our rustic swains,
What time Britannia, friendless and forlorn,
Her shores exposed, her naval trophies torn;
Bold in her native vigour dared oppose
Rebellious subjects and combining foes;
In vain thy generous bosom burn'd to stand
The manly bulwark of an injured land,
Or, nobly bleeding by the hostile ball,
In freedom's and in Albion's cause to fall;
Doom'd by relentless fate, to press the ground,
The unhappy victim of a casual wound."

From

From the extracts, and the sketch of the poem itself, it will appear, that the reader who shall expect from it either originality or genius will probably be disappointed. It is not, however, without merit: the author writes like a man of taste, a gentleman, and a scholar. And though, indeed, to

write tolerable verse is now an accomplishment within the reach of almost any one that has had a liberal education, it is some praise to have composed a poem that, in an age so fastidious as the present, can be read without weariness or disgust.

ART. CXXVII. *Observations on the Importance of the American Revolution, and the Means of making it a Benefit to the World. To which is added, a Letter from M. Turgot, late Comptroller-General of the Finances of France: With an Appendix, containing a Translation of the Will of M. Fortuné Ricard, lately published in France. By Richard Price, D. D. LL. D. and Fellow of the Royal Society of London, and of the Academy of Arts and Sciences in New England. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Cadell. 1785.*
(Concluded from page 382.)

IT is not conceivable, the doctor thinks, that they should meet with any great difficulties in doing this. Their debts at present, we are told, are moderate; and they are very capable of bearing taxes sufficient for the purpose of a gradual redemption. A sinking fund, guarded against misapplication, may soon extinguish them, and prove a resource in all events of the greatest importance.

There is one debt, however, on which no sinking fund, he says, can have any effect; and which it is impossible for them to discharge:—a debt, greater, perhaps, than has been ever due from any country; and which will be deeply felt by their latest posterity. —But it is a debt of gratitude only—of gratitude to that general, who has been raised up by Providence to make them free and independent, and whose name must shine among the first in the future annals of the benefactors of mankind.

Our author then recommends, and inculcates, such measures, as he thinks are best calculated to preserve and perpetuate peace in America. And here we are told, that the American States, having no external enemy to fear, are in danger of fighting with one another; that this is their *greatest* danger, and the providing securities against it their *hardest* work.

The decisions of Congress are rendered inefficient and futile, because no provision is made for enforcing them. Dr. Price acknowledges that he is by no means qualified to point out the

best method of removing this defect; he thinks, however, that Congress may be furnished with a power of calling out from the confederated States, *quotas* of militia, sufficient to force at once the compliance of any state which may shew an inclination to break the union by resisting its decisions.

The next point he mentions, as an object of supreme importance, is the establishment of such a system of perfect liberty, religious as well as civil, in America, as shall render it a country where truth and reason shall have fair play, and the human powers find full scope for exerting themselves, and for shewing how far they can carry human improvement.

The faculties of man, we are told, have hitherto, in all countries, been more or less cramped by the interference of civil authority in matters of speculation, by tyrannical laws against heresy and schism, and by slavish hierarchies and religious establishments. It is above all things desirable, the doctor says, that no such fetters on reason should be admitted into America: and he observes, with inexpressible satisfaction, that at present they have no existence there. In this respect, he says, the governments of the United States are liberal to a degree that is unparalleled. They have the distinguished honour of being the first States under Heaven, in which forms of government had been established favourable to *universal* liberty. Being thus distinguished in their infancy, what will they be in a more advanced

state?

state? May we not see the dawning of brighter days on earth, and a new creation rising?

The liberty our author means, includes in it liberty of conduct in all civil matters—liberty of discussion in all speculative matters—and liberty of conscience in all religious matters;—and it is then perfect, he says, when under no restraint except when used to injure any one in his person, property, or good name; that is, except when used to destroy itself.

In regard to liberty of discussion, civil governors, in Dr. Price's opinion, go miserably out of their proper province, whenever they take upon them the care of truth, or the support of any doctrinal points. They are not judges of truth; and if they pretend to decide about it, they will decide wrong. It is superstition, idolatry, and nonsense, that civil power at present supports almost every where, under the idea of supporting sacred truth, and opposing dangerous error.

Civil establishments of formularies of faith and worship, he censures as inconsistent with the rights of private judgement; they engender strife, turn religion into a trade, shoar up error, producing hypocrisy and prevarication, laying an undue bias on the human mind in its enquiries, obstructing the progress of truth, and impeding the improvement of the world. So apt are mankind, he says, to misrepresent the character of the Deity, and to connect his favour with particular modes of faith, that it must be expected, that a religion so settled, will be what it has hitherto been—a gloomy and cruel superstition, bearing the name of religion.

“It has long been a subject of dispute (continues he) which is worst in its effects on society, *such* a religion, or speculative Atheism. For my own part, I could almost give the preference to the latter.—Atheism is so repugnant to every principle of common-sense, that it is not possible it should ever gain much ground, or become very prevalent. On the contrary; there is a particular proneness in the human mind to Superstition, and nothing is

more likely to become prevalent.—Atheism leaves us to the full influence of most of our natural feelings and social principles; and these are so strong in their operation, that in general they are a sufficient guard to the order of society. But Superstition counteracts these principles, by holding forth men to one another as objects of divine hatred; and by putting them on harassing, silencing, imprisoning, and burning one another in order to do God service.—Atheism is a sanctuary for vice, by taking away the motives to virtue arising from the will of God, and the fear of a future judgement. But Superstition is more a sanctuary for vice, by teaching men ways of pleasing God without moral virtue, and by leading them even to compound for wickedness by ritual services, by bodily penances and mortifications, by adorning shrines, going pilgrimages, saying many prayers, receiving absolution from the priest, exterminating heretics, &c.—Atheism destroys the sacredness and obligation of an oath. But has there not been also a religion (so called) which has done this, by leading its professors to a persuasion that there exists a power on earth which can dispense with the obligation of oaths, that *pious* frauds are right, and that faith is not to be kept with heretics?

“It is indeed only a rational and liberal religion; a religion founded on just notions of the Deity, as a Being who regards equally every sincere worshipper, and by whom all are alike favoured as far as they act up to the light they enjoy; a religion which consists in the imitation of the moral perfections of an almighty but benevolent governor of nature, who directs for the best all events, in confidence in the care of his Providence, in resignation to his will, and in the faithful discharge of every duty of piety and morality, from a regard to his authority and the apprehension of a future righteous retribution.—It is only THIS religion (the inspiring principle of every thing fair, and worthy, and joyful, and which in truth is nothing but the love of God and man, and virtue, warming the

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the heart and directing the conduct.) It is only THIS kind of religion that can bless the world, or be an advantage to society.—This is the religion that every enlightened friend to mankind will be zealous to promote. But it is a religion that the powers of the world know little of, and which will always be best promoted by being left free and open.

“ I cannot help adding here, that such in particular is the Christian religion.—Christianity teaches us that there is none good but one, that is, God; that he willeth all men to be saved, and will punish nothing but wickedness; that he desires mercy and not sacrifice (benevolence rather than rituals); that loving him with all our hearts, and loving our neighbour as ourselves, is the whole of our duty; and that in every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteousness is accepted of him. It rests its authority on the power of God, not of man; refers itself entirely to the understandings of men; makes us the subjects of a kingdom that is not of this world; and requires us to elevate our minds above temporal emoluments, and to look forwards to a state beyond the grave, where a government of perfect virtue will be erected under that Messiah who has *tasted death for every man*.—What have the powers of the world to do with such a religion?—It disclaims all connexion with them; it made its way at first in opposition to them; and, as far as it is now upheld by them, it is dishonoured and vilified.”

The spirit of religious establishments, he further condemns, as opposite to the spirit of Christianity; it is, says he, a spirit of pride and tyranny, in opposition to the Christian *lowly* spirit; a contracted and selfish spirit, in opposition to the Christian enlarged and benevolent spirit; the spirit of the world, in opposition to the Christian *heavenly* spirit.

Such pernicious and horrid things are civil establishments of religion, in our author's opinion, that in the ardour of his zeal, he prays fervently that Heaven may soon put an end to them. The world will never be ge-

nerally wise, or virtuous, or happy, he says, till these enemies to its peace and improvement are demolished.—

“ Thanks be to God (continues he) they are giving way before increasing light. Let them never show themselves in America. Let no such monster be known there as human authority in matters of religion. Let every honest and peaceable man, whatever is his faith, be protected there; and find an effectual defence against the attacks of bigotry and intolerance.—In the United States may religion flourish! They cannot be very great and happy if it does not. But let it be a better religion than most of those which have been hitherto professed in the world. Let it be a religion which enforces moral obligations; not a religion which relaxes and evades them.—A tolerant and *catholic* religion; not a rage for proselitism.—A religion of peace and charity; not a religion that persecutes, curses, and damns.—In a word, let it be the genuine gospel of peace lifting above the world, warming the heart with the love of God and his creatures, and sustaining the fortitude of good men by the assured hope of a future deliverance from death, and an infinite reward in the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour.”

The doctor goes on to give his sentiments concerning education, the dangers to which the American States are exposed, internal wars, unequal distribution of property, trade, banks, paper credit, oaths, the Negro trade, and slavery;—but it is unnecessary for us to attend him any farther.—We cannot conclude, however, without observing, that he advances principles, in the course of his work, which appear to us utterly indefensible; principles which, in their direct and natural consequences, would prove, if not subversive of the interests of virtue and religion, at least, extremely prejudicial to them. We are, indeed, astonished that he does not see these consequences; if he had, we are persuaded he never would have advanced such principles; as there is not a man on earth, we firmly believe, who is more solicitous to promote the best interests of society,

or

or a more determined foe to every species of tyranny and oppression, civil or ecclesiastical.

M. Turgot's letter was written in the year 1778; it shews a very enlarged and liberal turn of mind, and contains observations in which the United States are deeply concerned.—

ART. CXXVIII. *Additions and Corrections* to the first and second Editions of Dr. Adam Smith's Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations.* 4^{to}. pp. 79. 2s. Cadell. 1784.

COMMERCE, on its present extensive scale, being of modern date, it is not surprising, that through ignorance and want of experience, its principles should for a long time have been very much misunderstood. An hostile rivalry has commonly been thought to be included in the very idea of trade; and hence it has been generally understood, that the only way for a commercial nation to support its consequence, and increase its wealth, is by casting every obstruction in the way of other trading countries. From this principle has arisen the whole system of restriction in commercial law, and innumerable jealousies between neighbouring states.

At length, however, the world begins to perceive, that commerce depends, not upon a competition, but upon a combination of interests; and that it is best supported, not by mutual limitations and embarrassments, but by a perfect freedom of intercourse. It is now understood, that the trade of nations, as well as individuals, flourishes best, when the trader is surrounded by opulent neighbours; and that the mutual encouragement of labour, in the several ways in which each country, from its natural advantages, or acquired habits, is best able to excel, must be a mutual benefit; and that even where their labour is employed in the same track, it is as injurious to neighbouring nations, as it is commonly found to be to neighbouring individuals, to live in a perpetual state of jealousy.

These principles, though certainly

The will of M. Fortuné Ricard will amuse the doctor's readers; it exemplifies, with much pleasantry and humour, the account which Dr. Price gives of the powers of compound interest, or a sinking fund, and the uses to which they may be applied, for the benefit of nations and of posterity.

just, were little known, or understood, by our old writers upon commerce; and, indeed, seem never to have been settled in their full force, till Dr. Adam Smith wrote his *Inquiry*. In this work, however, they are established in a manner which nearly approaches to demonstration; so that the author is entitled to the praise, not only of having written an excellent book, on a subject before very imperfectly understood, but of having laid the foundation of a commercial system of policy, which cannot fail, in time, to subdue the narrow prejudices which have hitherto influenced the counsels of statesmen, as well as the conduct of merchants.

A third edition of this important work is now presented to the public, with several additions, which are printed separately, in quarto, to accommodate the purchasers of the two former editions. These additions are numerous and valuable, and serve to confirm the author's commercial system. Several of them enter into the detail concerning the present state of the British trade. The articles principally insisted on, are, the state of commerce between Great-Britain and France; the effects of the bounty on corn; that on the white herring fishery, and other bounties; the restrictions and prohibitions respecting the materials of manufacture, particularly wool; regulated and joint-stock companies.

We shall take advantage of this republication, and of these additions to the work, to select, from the new materials, a curious extract from our author's

* These are included in the third edition (just published) of *The Inquiry*, &c. in three vols. 8vo. Price one guinea bound.

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thor's clear and judicious view of the history and present state of the East-India Company.

"The old English-India Company was established in 1600, by a charter from Queen Elizabeth. In the first twelve voyages which they fitted out for India, they appear to have traded as a regulated company, with separate stocks, though only in the general ships of the company. In 1612, they united into a joint stock. Their charter was exclusive, and though not confirmed by act of parliament, was in those days supposed to convey a real exclusive privilege. For many years, therefore, they were not much disturbed by interlopers. Their capital, which never exceeded seven hundred and forty-four thousand pounds, and of which fifty pounds was a share, was not so exorbitant, nor their dealings so extensive, as to afford either a pretext for gross negligence and profusion, or a cover to gross malversation. Notwithstanding some extraordinary losses, occasioned partly by the malice of the Dutch East-India Company, and partly by other accidents, they carried on for many years a successful trade. But in process of time, when the principles of liberty were better understood, it became every day more and more doubtful how far a royal charter, not confirmed by act of parliament, could convey an exclusive privilege. Upon this question the decisions of the courts of justice were not uniform, but varied with the authority of government and the humours of the times. Interlopers multiplied upon them; and towards the end of the reign of Charles II. through the whole of that of James II. and during a part of that of William III. reduced them to great distress. In 1698, a proposal was made to parliament of advancing two millions to government at eight per cent. provided the subscribers were erected into a new East-India Company with exclusive privileges. The old East-India Company offered seven hundred thousand pounds, nearly the amount of their capital, at four per cent. upon the same conditions. But such was at that time the state of public credit, that it was more

convenient for government to borrow two millions at eight per cent. than seven hundred thousand pounds at four. The proposal of the new subscribers was accepted, and a new East-India Company established in consequence. The old East-India Company, however, had a right to continue their trade till 1701. They had, at the same time, in the name of their treasurer, subscribed, very artfully, three hundred and fifteen thousand pounds into the stock of the new. By a negligence in the expression of the act of parliament, which vested the East-India trade in the subscribers to this loan of two millions, it did not appear evident that they were all obliged to unite into a joint stock. A few private traders, whose subscriptions amounted only to seven thousand two hundred pounds, insisted upon the privilege of trading separately upon their own stocks, and at their own risk. The old East-India Company had a right to a separate trade upon their old stock till 1701; and they had likewise, both before and after that period, a right, like that of other private traders, to a separate trade upon the three hundred and fifteen thousand pounds, which they had subscribed into the stock of the new company. The competition of the two companies with the private traders, and with one another, is said to have well nigh ruined both. Upon a subsequent occasion, in 1730, when a proposal was made to parliament for putting the trade under the management of a regulated company, and thereby laying it in some measure open, the East-India Company, in opposition to this proposal, represented, in very strong terms, what had been, at this time, the miserable effects, as they thought them, of this competition. In India, they said, it raised the price of goods so high, that they were not worth the buying; and in England, by overstocking the market, it sunk their price so low, that no profit could be made by them. That by a more plentiful supply, to the great advantage and convenience of the public, it must have reduced, very much, the price of India goods in the English market,

market, cannot well be doubted; but that it should have raised very much their price in the Indian market, seems not probable, as all the extraordinary demand which that competition could occasion, must have been but as a drop of water in the immense ocean of Indian commerce. The increase of demand, besides, though in the beginning it may sometimes raise the price of goods, never fails to lower it in the long-run. It encourages production, and thereby increases the competition of the producers, who, in order to undersell one another, have recourse to new divisions of labour, and new improvements of art, which might never otherwise have been thought of. The miserable effects of which the company complained, were the cheapness of consumption and the encouragement given to production, precisely the two effects which it is the great business of political economy to promote. The competition, however, of which they gave this doleful account, had not been allowed to be of long continuance. In 1702, the two companies were, in some measure, united by an indenture tripartite, to which the Queen was the third party; and in 1708, they were, by act of parliament, perfectly consolidated into one company, by their present name of the United Company of Merchants trading to the East-Indies. Into this act it was thought worth while to insert a clause, allowing the separate traders to continue their trade till Michaelmas 1711, but at the same time empowering the directors, upon three years notice, to redeem their little capital of seven thousand two hundred pounds, and thereby to convert the whole stock of the Company into a joint-stock. By the same act, the capital of the Company, in consequence of a new loan to government, was augmented from two millions to three millions two hundred thousand pounds. In 1743, the Company advanced another million to government. But this million being raised, not by a call upon the proprietors, but by selling annuities and contracting bond-debts, it did not augment the stock upon

which the proprietors could claim a dividend. It augmented, however, their trading stock, it being equally liable with the other three millions two hundred thousand pounds, to the losses sustained, and debts contracted, by the Company, in prosecution of their mercantile projects. From 1708, or at least from 1711, this Company, being delivered from all competitors, and fully established in the monopoly of the English commerce to the East-Indies, carried on a successful trade, and from their profits made annually a moderate dividend to their proprietors. During the French war, which began in 1741, the ambition of Mr. Dupleix, the French governor of Pondicherry, involved them in the wars of the Carnatic, and in the politics of the Indian princes. After many signal successes, and equally signal losses, they at last lost Madras, at that time their principal settlement in India. It was restored to them by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle; and about this time the spirit of war and conquest seems to have taken possession of their servants in India, and never since to have left them. During the French war, which began in 1755, their arms partook of the general good fortune of those of Great-Britain. They defended Madras, took Pondicherry, recovered Calcutta, and acquired the revenues of a rich and extensive territory, amounting, it was then said, to upwards of three millions a-year. They remained for several years in quiet possession of this revenue: but in 1767, administration laid claim to their territorial acquisitions, and the revenue arising from them, as of right belonging to the crown; and the Company, in compensation for this claim, agreed to pay to government four hundred thousand pounds a-year. They had, before this, gradually augmented their dividend from about six to ten per cent.; that is, upon their capital of three millions two hundred thousand pounds, they had increased it by a hundred and twenty-eight thousand pounds, or had raised it from 192,000 to 320,000 pounds a-year. — They were attempting, about this

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this time, to raise it still further, to twelve and a half per cent. which would have made their annual payments to their proprietors equal to what they had agreed to pay annually to government, or to four hundred thousand pounds a-year. But during the two years in which their agreement with government was to take place, they were restrained from any further increase of dividend by two successive acts of parliament, of which the object was to enable them to make a speedier progress in the payment of their debts, which were at this time estimated at upwards of six or seven millions sterling. In 1769, they renewed their agreement with government for five years more, and stipulated, that during the course of that period, they should be allowed gradually to increase their dividend to twelve and a half per cent.; never increasing it, however, more than one per cent. in one year. This increase of dividend, therefore, when it had risen to its utmost height, could augment their annual payments, to their proprietors and government together, but by six hundred and eight thousand pounds, beyond what they had been before their late territorial acquisitions. What the gross revenue of those territorial acquisitions was supposed to amount to, has already been mentioned; and by an account brought by the Cruttenden East-Indiaman in 1768, the nett revenue, clear of all deductions and military charges, was stated at two millions forty-eight thousand seven hundred and forty-seven pounds. They were said at the same time to possess another revenue, arising partly from lands, but chiefly from the customs established at their different settlements, amounting to four hundred and thirty-nine thousand pounds. The profits of their trade too, according to the evidence of their chairman before the House of Commons, amounted, at this time, to at least four hundred thousand pounds a-year; according to that of their accountant, to at least five hundred thousand; according to the lowest account, at least equal to the highest dividend that was to be

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paid to their proprietors. So great a revenue might certainly have afforded an augmentation of six hundred and eight thousand pounds in their annual payments; and at the same time have left a large sinking fund sufficient for the speedy reduction of their debts. In 1773, however, their debts, instead of being reduced, were augmented by an arrear to the treasury in the payment of the four hundred thousand pounds; by another to the Custom-house for duties unpaid; by a large debt to the Bank for money borrowed; and by a fourth, for bills drawn upon them from India, and wantonly accepted, to the amount of upwards of twelve hundred thousand pounds. The distress which these accumulated claims brought upon them, obliged them not only to reduce all at once their dividend to six per cent. but to throw themselves upon the mercy of government, and to supplicate, first, a release from the further payment of the stipulated four hundred thousand pounds a-year; and, secondly, a loan of fourteen hundred thousand, to save them from immediate bankruptcy. The great increase of their fortune had, it seems, only served to furnish their servants with a pretext for greater profusion, and a cover for greater malversation, than in proportion even to that increase of fortune. The conduct of their servants in India, and the general state of their affairs both in India and in Europe, became the subjects of a parliamentary inquiry; in consequence of which, several very important alterations were made in the constitution of their government, both at home and abroad. In India, their principal settlements of Madras, Bombay, and Calcutta, which had before been altogether independent of one another, were subjected to a governor-general, assisted by a council of four assessors, parliament assuming to itself the first nomination of this governor and council, who were to reside at Calcutta; that city having now become, what Madras was before, the most important of the English settlements in India. The court of the mayor of Calcutta, originally instituted for the trial of mercantile

mercantile causes, which arose in the city and neighbourhood, had gradually extended its jurisdiction with the extension of the empire. It was now reduced and confined to the original purpose of its institution. Instead of it a new supreme court of judicature was established, consisting of a chief justice and three judges, to be appointed by the crown. In Europe, the qualification necessary to entitle a proprietor to vote at their general courts was raised, from five hundred pounds, the original price of a share in the stock of the Company, to a thousand pounds. In order to vote upon this qualification too, it was declared necessary that he should have possessed it, if acquired by his own purchase, and not by inheritance, for at least one year, instead of six months, the term requisite before. The court of twenty-four directors had before been chosen annually; but it was now enacted, that each director should, for the future, be chosen for four years; six of them, however, to go out of office by rotation every year, and not to be capable of being re-chosen at the election of the six new directors for the ensuing year. In consequence of these alterations, the courts, both of the proprietors and directors, it was expected, would be likely to act with more dignity and steadiness than they had usually done before. But it seems impossible, by any alterations, to render those courts, in any respect, fit to govern, or even to share in the government of a great empire; because the greater part of their members must always have too little interest in the prosperity of that empire, to give any serious attention to what may promote it. Frequently a man of great, sometimes even a man of small fortune, is willing to purchase a thousand pounds share in India stock, merely for the influence which he expects to acquire by a vote in the court of proprietors. It give him a share, though not in the plunder, yet in the appointment of the plunderers of India; the court of directors, though they make that appointment, being necessarily more or less under the influence of the pro-

prietors, who not only elect those directors, but sometimes over-rule the appointments of their servants in India. Provided he can enjoy this influence for a few years, and thereby provide for a certain number of his friends, he frequently cares little about the dividend, or even about the value of the stock upon which his vote is founded. About the prosperity of the great empire, in the government of which that vote gives him a share, he seldom cares at all. No other sovereigns ever were, or, from the nature of things, ever could be, so perfectly indifferent about the happiness or misery of their subjects, the improvement or waste of their dominions, the glory or disgrace of their administration; as, from irresistible moral causes, the greater part of the proprietors of such a mercantile company are, and necessarily must be. This indifference too was more likely to be increased than diminished by some of the new regulations, which were made in consequence of the parliamentary inquiry. By a resolution of the House of Commons, for example, it was declared, that when the fourteen hundred thousand pounds lent to the Company by government should be paid, and their bond-debts be reduced to fifteen hundred thousand pounds, they might then, and not till then, divide eight per cent. upon their capital; and that whatever remained of their revenues and nett profits at home, should be divided into four parts; three of them to be paid into the Exchequer for the use of the public, and the fourth to be reserved as a fund, either for the farther reduction of their bond-debts, or for the discharge of other contingent exigencies, which the Company might labour under. But if the Company were bad stewards, and bad sovereigns, when the whole of their nett revenue and profits belonged to themselves, and were at their own disposal, they were surely not likely to be better, when three-fourths of them were to belong to other people, and the other fourth, though to be laid out for the benefit of the Company, yet to be so, under the

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the inspection, and with the approbation, of other people.

“ It might be more agreeable to the Company that their own servants and dependants should have, either the pleasure of wasting, or the profit of embezzling, whatever surplus might remain, after paying the proposed dividend of eight per cent. than that it should come into the hands of a set of people with whom those resolutions could scarce fail to set them, in some measure, at variance. The interest of those servants and dependants might so far predominate in the court of proprietors, as sometimes to dispose it to support the authors of depredations which had been committed in direct violation of its own authority. With the majority of proprietors, the support even of the authority of their own court, might sometimes be a matter of less consequence than the support of those who had set that authority at defiance.

“ The regulations of 1773, accordingly, did not put an end to the disorders of the Company's government in India. Notwithstanding that, during a momentary fit of good conduct, they had, at one time, collected, into the Treasury of Calcutta more than three millions sterling; notwithstanding that they had afterwards extended,

either their dominion, or their depredation, over a vast accession of some of the richest and most fertile countries in India; all was wasted and destroyed. They found themselves altogether unprepared to stop or resist the incursion of Hyder Ali; and, in consequence of those disorders, the Company is now (1784) in greater distress than ever; and, in order to prevent immediate bankruptcy, is once more reduced to supplicate the assistance of government. Different plans have been proposed by the different parties in parliament, for the better management of its affairs. And all those plans seem to agree in supposing, what was indeed always abundantly evident, that it is altogether unfit to govern its territorial possessions. Even the Company itself seems to be convinced of its own incapacity so far, and seems, upon that account, willing to give them up to government.”

On these, and other observations, which Dr. Smith has added to his original work, we shall only remark, that they seem entitled to a more than common share of attention; as they are not casual ideas, suggested by a present occasion, but conclusions drawn from a system, which is established on the most solid principles.

THE ENGLISH THEATRE, AND REGISTER OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS.

OPERA-HOUSE.

May 28.

THE *Viaggiatori Felici*, though only a revived entertainment, appeared to be entirely new, both from a number of songs equally remarkable for excellent composition, as for the manner in which they were executed, and from the great abilities of the best troop of comic performers ever imported from Italy. Signora Ferrarese was easy, spirited, and apposite to the character of Flirtilla. Her first duet with Babini, beginning *à Paris tout est charmant*; and her song, *Se vi vedi*, were delivered with so much excellence, that they were, with bursts of

applause, unanimously encored. Her air, *Con grata voce*, was of a piece with the rest of her songs; but in this she divided the best-earned applause with Mr. Patria, for his accompaniment on the hautboy. Signor Babini's first appearance in the comic was a masterly piece of acting, whilst the natural harmony of the most enchanting voice created a doubt which deserved most praise, the actor or the singer. His caricature on the depraved taste of French music, was much admired, and repeated with additional merit. Taffa was excellent. Poor Morigi did all he could; and considering that he

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had

had hardly voice enough left to go through the recitative, he was pretty successful in his attempt of his comi-

cal song of *Patterio*. Upon the whole, the originality of his acting made ample amends for other deficiencies.

COVENT-GARDEN.

May 28. THIS theatre closed for the season this evening, with the comedy of *Which is the Man?* and the musical farce of *The Contrivances*. Mr. Lewis came forward at the end of the play, and, in a very apposite address, begged to return the thanks of the

manager and the performers, for the indulgence and support which they had received and hoped, as they were determined to endeavour to merit, they should, at a future period, again experience the same liberal encouragement.

THEATRE-ROYAL in the HAY-MARKET.

May 28. Mr. Colman commenced his campaign this evening with the musical comedy of *Two to One*, and the farce of *A Mogul Tale*; but as the characters were personated by the same performers as last year, there is little more to observe, than they seemed quite at home, and went through their parts with great spirit.—Considering the number of public places that were open, we think the little manager ought to be highly gratified at so respectable an appearance in his favour.

June 26. A new entertainment, called *A Beggar on Horseback*, by Mr. O'Keeffe, was performed at this theatre for the first time, the principal characters in which were

*Squire Cogger	Mr. Parsons.
Nephew	Mr. Bannister, jun.
Dozey	Mr. Baddeley.
James	Mr. Burton.
Old Barnevelt	Mr. Barret.
His Son	Mr. Painter.
Scout	Mr. R. Palmer.
Conny	Mr. Edwin.
Nancy	Mrs. Wells.
Miss Barnevelt	Miss Francis.
Mrs. Mummery	Mrs. Webb.

The fable is briefly as follows:—Cogger having taken a fancy to Nancy, a country girl, who had been hired to live with him in the capacity of a house-maid, permits Conny, her brother, whom he has likewise engaged to live in his family, to take a variety of liberties, under an idea, that by using his influence over the sister, he shall be able to gain the girl over to

his will. Conny appears first as footman, which place he exchanges for coachman; but after making a trial of his skill in that line, he wishes to exchange for gardener; but not content with that, he insists upon being butler, and upon every demur of the old gentleman, threatens to take away Nancy, whom Cogger is having instructed in music, dancing, &c. which he at last puts into execution upon being called to account for putting on a suit of his master's clothes.—Just at the commencement of the piece, Cogger's nephew, a young, wild Oxonian, arrives in town, whom the old gentleman is determined to discard for his extravagancies, and for having performed a character upon the stage, in a country town, and endeavouring to run off with a farmer's daughter; being turned out from his uncle's he determines to fly to the stage for support, but is rejected on his application to the London managers; his man, Scout, prevails on him to apply to an advertisement for performers for a country company; the address of which is to A. B. at the Blue Boar, Oxford-street.—Nancy, not liking her situation with Cogger, determines to leave him, and for that purpose puts an advertisement in the paper for a place with a single gentleman, with a similar address with that for theatrical heroes—her brother having brought her away from the old gentleman's house, she gives him the slip, and flies to the Blue Boar, to whom the landlady by mistake intro-

duces Cogger's nephew, and she proves the very girl he had taken a liking to in the country.—The old gentleman having lost his Nancy, is resolved to get another, and seeing her advertisement in the paper, thinks it will answer his purpose: upon applying to the house, the landlady mistakes again, and shews him into the managers, by which an equivocal takes place, and she agrees to give him an engagement; his nephew, however, appears, confesses his love for Nancy, and his willingness to marry her; the uncle applauds his resolution, gives his consent, and pardons all his former follies; Conny is likewise forgiven, who promises in future to be content with

any situation they will put him into.—Such are the general outlines of the piece, fraught with scenes full of laughable incidents. There is no great originality in the characters, but though they may be recognized as old acquaintance, they are of that number when in possession of sprightly dialogue, which was the case last night, that will always be received with pleasure and approbation.—With regard to the performers, it is sufficient to say, that Edwin, Parsons, and Mrs. Wells were quite at home. Young Bannister made his character very respectable; nor were Mrs. Webb, R. Palmer, and Barrett undeserving of praise in the little they had to do.

LA FIERA DI VENEZIA.

PANTHEON.

May 25. DELPINI, who may be called a *caricature* of buffoonery, having informed the public, that something should be seen, to surprise, astonish, and confound; that the Pantheon should be transformed to the Doge's palace; that there should be celestial music; that there should be the Fair of Venice in all its glory; and that there should be a prospect of the sea—great were the expectations formed; but how visionary are our hopes! The poor Pantheon suffered a terrible reverse; the beautiful dome was concealed by a piece of dirty canvas, studded over with *silver-paper stars*, and hung with festoons of flowers and Cupids, wretchedly painted. Festoons also were hung over the orchestra gallery, with pieces of gauze fastened to them; these had the appearance of a washer-woman's lines, hung with wet linen. A like decoration, with Vestris-blue stuff, was ranged along the gallery and in other parts of the building.

Such was the situation in which the temporary palace of the Doge was found, by a very fashionable, though not numerous company. Among the visitors were the Prince of Wales, the Dukes of Devonshire, the Ladies Salisbury, Melbourne, Essex, Duncannon, Horatia Waldegrave, Betty Delmé, and

Julia Howard, with several other ladies of distinction, beauty, and rank. The Lords Salisbury, Waldegrave, and Duncannon were also present, with Messrs. G. and F. North, Col. Tarleton, Mr. G. Hanger, Mr. C. Wyndham, Captain Conway, Mr. Crosbie, &c. &c. The amorous corps made a gay appearance; Mrs. T—le attracted every eye, and Miss Frederick was much admired.

Some few characters appeared, the two best deserving notice were a Noodle and Doodle, one of whom sung some good imitations of Johnstone and Edwin.

The first incident that occurred worthy record, was the *entrée* of a group of Punches; they were considered by the company as a *banditti* composed of the Delpini family. These were succeeded by a set of assassins, each armed with a dagger, in character.—The company were soon relieved from this nuisance, by the arrival of the supper-hour.

SUPPER.

A most elegant repast was spread. The dishes were various and excellent. Every table was plentifully furnished. Soups and hot dishes were supplied to all who demanded; and in addition to a delicious confectionary, may be mentioned

tioned some good wines, French as well as Portugal; together with Rhenish.

THE FAIR.

At the sound of a trumpet, the fair was announced open. It was constructed of booths, formed in the subterraneous apartments; in which boots, shoes, caps, bonnets, &c. all formed of paper, were displayed. The booth where the lottery was held, exhibited a few real caps, aprons, &c. At the

extreme end of this apartment was a view of buildings, terminating with the sea: a platform was raised, on which two of Delpini's squadron continued singing duets; and from the affinity of the painted sea, gave the spectators an idea of two pirates hanging at low-water mark. Here the company were soon surfeited, and filed off to the upper regions, where they unanimously voted the Venetian Fair a complete *humbug*.

ABBEY INTELLIGENCE.

June 2. THE selection of this day consisted of nine of Handel's best compositions, and were recommended by a performance, such as perhaps was never heard before in this country: we must even give it a preference over the musical festival of last year. The instrumental performers amounted to six hundred and ten, and it is to their praise that the utmost unison and perfection of playing was discovered in the *piano* and *forte* passages. The chorusses and vocal parts were sung with charming effect.

Their Majesties and five of the Princesses were present; and an assemblage of two thousand five hundred auditors besides.

THIRD DAY.

The Messiah of Handel, is indisputably the first of that master's works. This superior merit, with the royal patronage, situation, some degree of novelty, and orchestra emulation, were circumstances that concurred to give it recommendation; and indeed such was the public opinion of its effect, that it is to answer their curiosity the repetition of next Saturday is ordered.

Of the performance of yesterday, we must say, that Mr. Harrison, in "Comfort ye my people," and "If God be sent for us," acquitted himself highly to his praise. Reinhold's best performance was, "Why do the nations," &c. Tasca sung "Behold I tell you a mystery!" with great effect. Norris does not possess extravagant powers, but he is always correct. Mr. Knyvett was hardly to be heard in "He was despised," &c. but he im-

proved in the duet with Harrison. Bartolini is not designed for sacred music, and we will say nothing of him. Miss Cantelo merits approbation for the style and truth with which she sung every recitative and air assigned to her, nor is Miss Abrams to be forgotten on the score of desert.

Now we "come to Hecuba!"—Of Madame Mara let it be said, that Nature has given her powers, and education has made her a singer.—While we subscribe to this merit, we will venture to reprove that lady for her very unseemly conduct.—She yesterday made herself an exception to all the other performers, and though they rose to take a part in all the chorusses, she singly kept her seat, with the most supercilious consequence imaginable.—And to add to this insolence, took her departure from the orchestra immediately after she had sung "I know that my Redeemer liveth!" Although their Majesties and four of their illustrious descendants were auditors!

The instruments went together in fine unison; the passages were played in good time; but in regard to the pauses, which the Conductor introduced in the chorusses, they were beyond all rule and example too long. Mr. Bates will do well to avail himself of this hint, and not allow his organ so much breathing time in future. Fewer *da capos* also in the last chorus, unless he imagines that his audience are music-mad, or all bit by a *taran-tula*, and that he wishes to send them dancing out of the Abbey by way of a cure.

IRISH

IRISH PROPOSITIONS, *as sent up from the Commons to the Lords.*

I. **T**HAT it is highly important to the general interests of the British empire, that the intercourse and commerce between Great-Britain and Ireland should be finally regulated on permanent and equitable principles, for the mutual benefit of both countries.

II. That it is consistent with the essential interests of the manufactures, revenue, commerce, and navigation of Great-Britain, that a full participation of commercial advantages should be permanently secured to Ireland, whenever a provision equally permanent and secure shall be made by the parliament of that kingdom towards defraying, in proportion to its growing prosperity, the necessary expences in time of peace, of protecting the trade and general interests of the empire.

III. That towards carrying into full effect so desirable a settlement, it is fit and proper that all articles, not the growth or manufacture of Great-Britain or Ireland, except those of the growth, produce, or manufacture of any country beyond the Cape of Good Hope to the Straits of Magellan, should be imported into each kingdom from the other reciprocally, under the same regulations, and at the same duties (if subject to duties) to which they would be liable when imported directly from the country or place from whence the same may have been imported into Great-Britain or Ireland respectively as the case may be; and that all duties originally paid on importation into either country respectively, except on arrack and foreign brandy, and on rum, and all sorts of strong waters not imported from the British colonies in the West-Indies shall be fully drawn back on exportation to the other; but, nevertheless, that the duties shall continue to be protected and guarded at present by withholding the drawback, until a certificate from the proper officers of the revenue, in the kingdom to which the export may be made, shall be returned and compared with the entry outwards.

IV. That it is highly important to the general interests of the British empire, that the laws for regulating trade and navigation should be the same in Great-Britain and Ireland; and therefore that it is essential, towards carrying into effect the present settlement, that all laws which have been made, or shall be made in Great-Britain, for securing exclusive privileges to the ships and mariners of Great-Britain, Ireland, and the British colonies and plantations, and for regulating and restraining the trade of the British colonies and plantations, such laws imposing the same restraints, and conferring the same benefits on the subjects of both kingdoms, should be in force in Ireland, by laws to be passed by the parliament of that kingdom for the same time and in the same manner as in Great-Britain.

V. That it is further essential to this settlement, that all goods and commodities of the growth, produce, or manufacture of British or

foreign colonies in America, or the West-Indies, and the British or foreign settlements on the coast of Africa, imported into Ireland, should, on importation, be subject to the same duties and regulations as the like goods are, or from time to time shall be subject to, upon importation into Great-Britain, or if prohibited from being imported into Great-Britain, shall, in like manner, be prohibited from being imported into Ireland.

VI. That in order to prevent illicit practices, injurious to the revenue and commerce of both kingdoms, it is expedient that all goods, whether of the growth, produce, or manufacture of Great-Britain or Ireland, or of any foreign country, which shall hereafter be imported into Great-Britain from Ireland, or into Ireland from Great-Britain, should be put by laws to be passed in the parliaments of the two kingdoms, under the same regulations with respect to bonds, caskets, and other instruments, to which the like goods are now subject in passing from one port of Great-Britain to another.

VII. That for the like purpose, it is also expedient that when any goods, the growth, produce, or manufacture of the British West-India islands, or any other of the British colonies or plantations, shall be shipped from Ireland for Great-Britain, they should be accompanied with such original certificates of the revenue officers of the colonies as shall be required by law on importation into Great-Britain; and when the whole quantity included in one certificate shall not be shipped at any one time, the original certificate, properly indorsed as to quantity, should be sent with the first parcel; and to identify the remainder, if shipped within a time to be limited, new certificates should be granted by the principal officers of the ports in Ireland, extracted from a register of the original documents, specifying the quantities before shipped from thence, by what vessels, and to what ports.

VIII. That it is essential for carrying into effect the present settlement, that all goods exported from Ireland to the British colonies in the West-Indies, or in America, or to the British settlements on the coast of Africa, or to the countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope to the Straits of Magellan, should from time to time be made liable to such duties and drawbacks, and put under such regulations as may be necessary, in order that the same may not be exported with less incumbrance of duties or impositions than the like goods shall be burdened with when exported from Great-Britain.

IX. That it is essential to the general commercial interests of the empire, that so long as the parliament of this kingdom shall think it advisable that the commerce to the countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope shall be carried on solely by an exclusive company, having liberty to import into the port of London only, no goods of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the said countries should be allowed to be imported

imported into Ireland but through Great-Britain, except dye-stuffs, drugs, cotton or other wool, and spices, which may be imported into Ireland from foreign European countries, so long as the same are importable from foreign European countries into Great Britain; and that it shall be lawful to export such goods of the growth, produce, or manufacture of any of the countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope to the Straits of Magellan, from Great-Britain to Ireland, with the same duties retained thereon as are now retained on their being exported to that kingdom; but that an account shall be kept of the duties retained, and the net drawback on the said goods imported to Ireland, and that the amount thereof shall be remitted by the receiver-general of his Majesty's customs in Great-Britain to the proper officer of the revenue in Ireland, to be placed to the account of his Majesty's revenue there, subject to the disposal of the parliament of that kingdom; and that whenever the commerce to the said countries shall cease to be so carried on solely by such an exclusive company, the goods, the growth, produce, or manufacture of the said countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope to the Straits of Magellan, should be importable into Ireland from the same countries from which they may be importable to Great-Britain, and no other; and that the ships going from Great-Britain to any of the said countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope to the Straits of Magellan, should not be restrained from touching at any of the ports in Ireland and taking on board there any of the goods of the growth, produce, or manufacture of that kingdom; and that no ships be allowed to clear out from Ireland to any of the said countries, but such ships as shall be freighted by the said company, and shall have sailed from the port of London.

X. That no prohibition should exist, in either country, against the importation, use, or sale of any article, the growth, product, or manufacture of the other, except such as either kingdom may judge expedient, from time to time, upon corn, meal, malt, flour, and biscuits; and except such qualified prohibitions at present contained in any act of the British or Irish parliaments as do not absolutely prevent the importation of goods or manufactures, or materials of manufactures, but only regulate and restrain the weight, the size, the packages, or other particular commodities; or prescribe the built, or country, or dimensions of the ships importing the same; and also except ammunition, arms, gunpowder, and other utensils of war importable only by virtue of his Majesty's licence; and that the duty on the importation of every such article (if subject to duty in either country) should be precisely the same in the one country as in the other, except where an addition may be necessary in either country, in consequence of an internal duty on any such article of its own consumption; or in consequence of internal bounties in the country where such article is grown, produced, or manufactured; and except such duties as either kingdom may judge expedient from time to time upon corn, meal, malt, flour, and biscuits.

XI. That in all cases where the duties on

articles of the growth, product, or manufacture of either country, are different on the importation into the other, it is expedient that they should be reduced, in the kingdom where they are the highest, to an amount not exceeding the amount payable in the other, so that the same shall not be less than ten one-half per cent. where any article was charged with a duty on importation into Ireland of ten one-half per cent. or upwards, on the 17th of May, 1782; and that all such articles should be exportable, from the kingdom into which they shall be imported, as free from duty as the similar commodities or home manufactures of the same kingdom.

XII. That it is also proper, that in all cases where the articles of the consumption of either kingdom shall be charged with an internal duty on the manufacture, the same manufacture, when imported from the other, may be charged with a farther duty on importation, adequate to countervail the internal duty on the manufacture, except in the case of beer imported into Ireland, as far as relates to the duties now charged thereon; such farther duty to continue so long only as the internal consumption shall be charged with the duty or duties to balance which it shall be imposed; and that where there is a duty on the raw material of any manufacture in either kingdom, less than the duty on the like raw material in the other, or equal to such duty, such manufacture may, on its importation into the other kingdom, be charged with such a countervailing duty as may be sufficient to subject the same, so imported, to burthens adequate to those which the manufacture composed of the like raw material is subject to in consequence of duties on such material in the kingdom into which such manufacture is so imported; and the said manufactures, so imported, shall be entitled to such drawbacks or bounties on exportation, as may leave the same subject to no heavier burthen than the home-made manufacture.

XIII. That, in order to give permanency to the settlement now intended to be established, it is necessary that no new or additional duties should be hereafter imposed, in either kingdom, on the importation of any article of the growth, product, or manufacture of the other; except such additional duties as may be requisite to balance duties on internal consumption, pursuant to the foregoing resolution, or in consequence of bounties remaining on such articles when exported from the other kingdom.

XIV. That, for the same purpose, it is necessary, farther, that no prohibition, or new or additional duties, should be hereafter imposed, in either kingdom, on the exportation of any article of native growth, produce, or manufacture, from the one kingdom to the other, except such as either kingdom may deem expedient, from time to time, upon corn, meal, malt, flour, and biscuits.

XV. That, for the same purpose, it is necessary, that no bounties whatsoever should be paid or payable, in either kingdom, on the exportation of any article to the other, except such as relate to corn, meal, malt, flour, and biscuits, and except also the bounties at present given by Great-Britain on beer, and spirits distilled

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distilled from corn; and such as are in the nature of drawbacks or compensations for duties paid; and that no bounty should be payable in Ireland on the exportation of any article to any British colonies or plantations, or to the British settlements on the coast of Africa, or on the exportation of any article imported from the British plantations, or from the British settlements on the coast of Africa, or British settlements in the East-Indies, or any manufacture made of such article, unless in cases where a similar bounty is payable in Great-Britain on exportation from thence, or where such bounty is merely in the nature of a drawback or compensation of or for duties paid, over and above any duties paid thereon in Britain; and that where any internal bounty shall be given in either kingdom, on any goods manufactured therein, and shall remain on such goods when exported, a countervailing duty adequate thereto may be laid upon the importation of the said goods into the other kingdom.

XVI. That it is expedient, for the general benefit of the British empire, that the importation of articles from foreign countries should be regulated, from time to time, in each kingdom, on such terms as may effectually favour the importation of similar articles of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the other, except in the case of materials of manufactures which are or may be allowed to be imported from foreign countries duty free; and that in all cases where any articles are or may be subject to higher duties on importation into this kingdom, from the countries belonging to any of the States of North-America, than the like goods are or may be subject to when imported as the growth, produce, or manufacture of the British colonies and plantations, or as the produce of the fisheries carried on by British subjects, such articles shall be subject to the same duties on importation into Ireland from the countries belonging

to the States of North-America, as the same are or may be subject to on importation from the said countries into this kingdom.

XVII. That it is expedient that such privileges of printing and vending books as are or may be legally possessed within Great-Britain under the grant of the crown or otherwise, and the copy rights of the authors and booksellers of Great Britain should continue to be protected in the manner they are at present, by the laws of Great-Britain; and that it is just that measures should be taken by the parliament of Ireland for giving the like protection to the similar privileges and rights in that kingdom.

XVIII. That it is expedient that regulations should be adopted with respect to patents to be hereafter granted for the encouragement of new inventions, so that the rights, privileges, and restrictions therein granted and contained, shall be of equal duration and force throughout Great-Britain and Ireland.

XIX. That it is expedient that measures should be taken to prevent disputes touching the exercise of the right of the inhabitants of each kingdom to fish on the coasts of any part of the British dominions.

XX. That the appropriation of whatever sum the gross hereditary revenue of the kingdom of Ireland (the due collection thereof being secured by permanent provisions) shall produce, after deducting all drawbacks, re-payments, or bounties granted in the nature of drawbacks, over and above the sum of six hundred and fifty-six thousand pounds in each year, towards the support of the naval force of the empire, to be applied in such manner as the parliament of Ireland shall direct, by an act to be passed for that purpose, will be a satisfactory provision, proportioned to the growing prosperity of that kingdom, towards defraying, in time of peace, the necessary expences of protecting the trade and general interests of the empire.

THE MONTHLY CHRONOLOGY.

SATURDAY, May 21.

THIS morning were executed facing the debtors door, Old-Bailey, the ten following convicts, viz. Thomas Bateman, alias Porker, John Hughes, Thomas Scott, Henry Wood, George Ward, and Thomas Conner for highway robberies; James Haywood and William Harding for burglaries; Patrick Daly for stealing on the river; and George Mawley for escaping a second time from the hulk in which he had been sentenced to hard labour.

WEDNESDAY, 27.

This day arrived from the United States of America Col. Smith, late aid-de-camp to General Washington, as secretary to the ambassador from that country; and next day his Excellency John Adams, as plenipotentiary from the United States of America, to the court of Great-Britain.

WEDNESDAY, June 1.

This day John Adams, Esq. minister plenipotentiary from the United States of America, LOND. MAG. June 1785.

had a private audience of his Majesty to deliver his credentials.

FRIDAY, 3.

A shocking murder was committed at Newark-upon-Trent, by a man named William Lantern (a weaver by trade) on the body of Hannah Stirley, his mother-in-law. It seems he had quarrelled with his wife for not rising earlier in the morning, and high words ensuing, he seized a board on the side of the bed, and aiming a blow at her, the children in the bed cried out to spare their mother, upon which the mother-in-law stepped between them, and unfortunately received the blow, which fractured her skull, and notwithstanding every assistance from the faculty, she languished till six o'clock on Saturday morning, when she expired.

SATURDAY, 4.

This being his Majesty's birth-day, the morning was ushered in with the ringing of bells, and at noon the guns of the Park and Tower were fired. About two o'clock there was a
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grand court and drawing-room at St. James's, at which the nobility, gentry, &c. attended, to pay their compliments to the King and royal family. Their Majesties were accompanied to St. James's by the Princess Royal, Princess Augusta, and Princess Elisabeth, and were attended at the drawing-room by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Right Hon. W. Pitt, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, Lord Chancellor, Dukes of Richmond, Chandos, Marlborough, Montague, Northumberland, &c. and most of the foreign ministers.

The ball was opened by the Prince of Wales and Princess Royal. At half past ten the minuets being ended, the country dances commenced, and were continued till near twelve o'clock, when their Majesties, with the Princesses, left the ball-room.

THURSDAY, 9.

This day at noon a dreadful fire broke out at Biggleswade, in Bedfordshire, which was not got under till evening. The want of water and rapidity of the flames, with the falling of the houses, being so dreadful, that little good could be done till the evening, when the fire was happily stopped. Upwards of sixty houses in the middle of the town are burnt down, with all the shops, warehouses, barns, stables, &c. adjoining. It is generally supposed to have been wilfully occasioned.

SATURDAY, 11.

Came on to be heard in the Court of King's-Bench, Westminster-Hall, the arguments on the return to the writ of mandamus, brought by Mr. Wooldridge, against the city of London.

Mr. Bearcroft, in behalf of Mr. Wooldridge; and Mr. Serjeant Adair, as council for the city of London, argued upon the three following points:

1st. "That of his obtaining from Sir John Langham's charity a sum of money.

2d. "Obtaining another sum from a person brought before him as an imprest man, under a pretence of his providing two substitutes.

3. "His being rendered incapable of attending his duty, as an alderman and a magistrate."

The court unanimously determined, each judge giving his opinion separately, that the two first points were insufficient for his removal as an alderman, they being offences against the public, and such as ought to have had a previous conviction by the common law.

But, with respect to the third point, his confinement in prison for debt, for one year and a quarter; also on two escape warrants there were sufficient grounds for his removal, as there must have been a special act of parliament, there being a general one passed soon after the late riots, which particularly expressed, that no person confined under an escape warrant, should receive the benefit of any insolvent act; therefore the grounds were sufficient for the court of aldermen to suppose he would not be able to do that duty to the public after so long a confinement, which they had a right to expect from him as an alderman and a magistrate, and perform those services, which he was compelled to do, agreeable to the oath he had taken. The court thought these sufficient grounds for amotion.

TUESDAY, 14.

The bill for imposing a tax on retail shops having yesterday received the royal assent, many of the shops in the city and almost all the shops in the west end of the town were this day kept shut, in testimony of the very general disapprobation with which this new-impost is received; and still further to deepen the gloom, the bells in several parishes were muffled, and rang dumb peals the whole of the afternoon, and Mr. Pitt was burnt in effigy at the Seven-Dials, Charing-Cross, and other places. The equestrian statue, in Leicester-Fields, was clothed in mourning. Orders were given for a detachment of the guards to be in readiness to suppress any riots that might happen; a double guard was posted at the Bank, and a letter was sent from the secretary of state's office to the Lord-Mayor, requiring him to suppress the first appearance of any thing like a riot, in consequence of which the Lord Mayor ordered all the constables to be out, and the marshals to patrol the city, to prevent the peace being broken. Notwithstanding these precautions, there was some outrage in Westminster. A mob, chiefly composed of women, surrounded the House of Commons, and as Mr. Pitt came out, attended by about forty of his friends, they pursued him with hisses to Downing-street. Several of his friends were insulted.

WEDNESDAY, 15.

The Lord Chief Baron gave judgement in the Court of Exchequer, in the cause of Sutton and Johnstone. It was an application to the court on the part of Commodore Johnstone, for a rule to show cause why a new trial should not be granted; and the court being unanimous in opinion against a new trial, the rule was discharged accordingly. By this judgement Commodore Johnstone is bound to pay taxed costs to Captain Sutton.

THURSDAY, 16.

This night between ten and eleven o'clock, a very alarming and destructive fire broke out at the house of Mr. Clopsom, wax-chandler, in Compton-street, Soho; engines arriving but slowly, and water not being at hand for some time, the flames communicated to the house on the opposite side of the way, being the corner of Greek-street, and entirely destroyed fifteen houses, besides damaging several others, before it was extinguished. Three gentlemen, who were assisting to move a physician's valuables at the above fire, had a narrow escape for their lives, the house falling in suddenly upon them, they were given up by the mob who had seen them enter; but in about ten minutes, two were seen crawling out of the ruins, and the other was heard beneath the iron railing of the area, crying in the most dreadful manner, and praying the spectators to force the iron work, which was at last accomplished by means of a rope being tied to it, and dragged by a number of people. Notwithstanding the rapidity of the flames no lives were lost, although in the house where the fire first broke out, every person was in bed at the time except the apprentice boy, whose carelessness was the cause of the dreadful conflagration. This lad was going to bed, when chancing to stoop over his candle, the flame caught

caught his hair, and set it in a blaze: with great presence of mind he snatched a towel that was hanging near him, and quickly folded it round his head, by which means he preserved his life; when he had extinguished the blaze, he threw the towel on the bed, and went down stairs to get some water to wash his face: on his return he found the bed on fire, and the room full of smoke: and then he perceived what had escaped him before, that the fire on his head had caught the towel before it was extinguished.

WEDNESDAY, 22.

The committee of Blackfriars-bridge met at Guildhall, and directed the gates on the said bridge to be thrown open, and the toll-gatherers to withdraw. This was accordingly done at twelve o'clock, and many workmen were immediately set to pull the toll-houses down, and remove the gates, &c. entirely. The parish of Christ-Church set their bells a ringing, and fired guns on the occasion.

FRIDAY, 24.

This day came on before Lord Mansfield and a special jury, in the court of King's Bench, the trial of Lord Waltham, in an indictment for perjury, in an answer to a bill in the Court of Chancery. The subject being opened in behalf of the prosecution, Mr. Bearcroft one of the defendant's counsel, caused the indictment and bill to be compared, in which several passages not corresponding, he detected two manifest flaws, and the prosecution was immediately nonsuited.

SUMMER ASSIZES. 1785.

HOME CIRCUIT.

Lord Mansfield and Mr. Baron Eyre.

Hertfordshire.—Monday, July 4, at Hertford.

Essex.—Wednesday 6, at Chelmsford.

Kent.—Monday 11, at Maidstone.

Sussex.—Monday 18, at Lewes.

Surrey.—Wednesday 20, at Croydon.

NORFOLK CIRCUIT.

Chief Baron Skynner and Mr. Justice Althurst.

Buckinghamshire.—Mon. July 4, at Buckingham.

Bedfordshire.—Thursday, July 7, at Bedford.

Huntingdonshire.—Sat. July 9, at Huntingdon.

Cambridgeshire.—Mon. July 11, at Cambridge.

Suffolk.—Thurs. July 14, at Bury St. Edmund's.

Norfolk.—Monday, July 18, Castle of Norwich.

City of Norwich.—Same day, at the Guildhall of the same city.

OXFORD CIRCUIT.

Lord Loughborough and Mr. Baron Hotham.

Berkshire.—Monday, July 4, at Abingdon.

Oxfordshire.—Wednesday 6, at Oxford.

Worcestershire.—Saturday 9, at Worcester.

City of Worcester.—Same day, city of Worcester.

Gloucestershire.—Wednes. 13, at Gloucester.

City of Gloucester.—Same day, city of Gloucester.

Monmouthshire.—Sat. 16, at Monmouth.

Herefordshire.—Tuesday 19, at Hereford.

Shropshire.—Saturday 23, at Shrewsbury.

Staffordshire.—Wednesday 27, at Stafford.

MIDLAND CIRCUIT.

Mr. Justice Gould and Mr. Justice Willes.

Northamptonshire.—Tuesday, July 5, at Northampton.

Rutlandshire.—Friday 8, at Okeham.

Lincolnshire.—Sat. 9, at the castle of Lincoln.

City of Lincoln.—Same day, city of Lincoln.

Nottinghamshire.—Thursday 14, at Nottingham.

Town of Nottingham.—The same day at Nottingham.

Derbyshire.—Saturday 16, at Derby.

Leicestershire.—Wed. 20, at the Castle, Leicester.

Borough of Leicester.—The same day, at Leicester.

City of Coventry.—Sat. 23, at Coventry.

Warwickshire.—Same day, at Warwick.

WESTERN CIRCUIT.

Mr. Baron Perryn and Mr. Justice Buller.

Southampton.—Tu. July 5, Castle of Winchester.

Town and county of Southampton.—Sat. 9, at Southampton.

Wilts.—The same day, at New Sarum.

Dorset.—Thursday 14, at Dorchester.

Devon.—Monday 18, Castle of Exeter.

City and county of Exeter.—The same day at the Guildhall of Exeter.

Cornwall.—Monday 25, at Bodmin.

Somerset.—Saturday 30, at Bridgewater.

City and county of Bristol.—August 4, at the Guildhall of Bristol.

NORTHERN CIRCUIT.

Mr. Justice Nares, Mr. Justice Heath.

City of York and county of the same city.—

July 9, at the Guildhall of the said city.

Yorkshire.—The same day, Castle of York.

Durham.—Tues. July 19, Castle of Durham.

Town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and county of the same town.—Saturday, July 23, Guildhall of the said town.

Northumberland.—The same day, Castle of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Cumberland.—Fri. July 29, City of Carlisle.

Westmoreland.—Wed. Aug. 3, at Appleby.

Lancashire.—Saturday 6, Castle of Lancaster.

NORTH WALES CIRCUIT.

James Hayes, Esq. and Thomas Potter, Esq.

Merionethshire.—Tues. Aug. 2, at Dolgelly.

Caernarvonshire.—Mon. 8, at Caernarvon.

Anglesey.—Saturday 13, at Beaumaris.

BRECON CIRCUIT.

John Williams, Esq. and Abel Moysey, Esq.

Glamorganshire.—Sat. July 30, at Cowbridge.

Breconshire.—Saturday, Aug. 6, at Brecon.

Radnorshire.—Friday 12, at Presteign.

CHESTER CIRCUIT.

The Hon. Richard Pepper Arden and the Hon. Daines Barrington.

Montgomeryshire.—Thursday, July 28, at Poole.

Denbighshire.—Wed. Aug. 3, at Wrexham.

Flintshire.—Tuesday 9, at Mold.

Cheshire.—Monday 15, Castle of Chester.

IRELAND.

THE propositions for regulating the commercial intercourse between Great-Britain and Ireland have already given no small alarm to the latter. In a debate upon a motion of adjournment in the Irish parliament, on Monday the 13th of June, Mr. Forbes and Mr. Grattan both declared for the adjournment, in order to give time for the final discussion of the subject. Mr. Grattan, on this occasion, said, "the twenty resolutions that have passed the British House of

Commons are subversive of the rights of the parliament of Ireland."—Mr. Forbes added, that "they involved the most important questions relative to the commerce and constitution of Ireland, which had ever been debated in an Irish parliament; they involved a question of no less importance, than the very existence of the Irish parliament, as an independent legislature, and challenged Mr. Orde and the Treasury bench to defend them."—Mr. Brown, of Trinity-college, termed them "illusory and pernicious."—Mr. Corry said they were "most detestable, and most destructive to the commerce and constitution of Ireland."—Mr. Grattan repeated his idea of them.—Mr. Griffith said, "the twenty propositions are destructive to the nation's rights."—On a division the motion for the adjournment was carried, and the House accordingly adjourned to Thursday the 29th.

At present all accounts agree that a strong opposition will be made in the House of Commons to the resolutions in their amended state, several members having declared their intention of fighting every inch of ground, among them Mr. Grattan, though supposed to be friendly to the present administration, has nevertheless expressed his dissatisfaction. This untoward circumstance will probably cause such delay that it is possible the propositions will not pass into a law during the present session, the summer being already so far advanced, and the members of parliament in both kingdoms become very impatient to retire.

WEST-INDIES.

NO accounts have as yet been received of actual hostilities on the Musquito shore; nor has any thing transpired with regard to what steps our ministry mean to take on this occasion. If they consider themselves as tied down to the letter of the last treaty of peace, we apprehend that it will be difficult for them to give it a construction favourable to the interests of the Jamaica planters. The contraband trade between Jamaica and the Spanish possessions in America, is so very lucrative, that notwithstanding several English ships have lately been seized, many vessels are still constantly employed in it, to the great profit of those concerned, and in spite of the increased number of Spanish guarda costas which are employed to prevent it.

It appears by a late Bahama paper, that an armed transport having arrived at Dominica with distressed loyalists from East-Florida, Governor Ord had granted a supply of provisions for their present subsistence, and allotted lands for them to settle on, part of which had been cleared, but abandoned for the want of funds to prosecute their cultivation; and that his Excellency having recommended these refugees to the attention of the Council and Assembly, an exemption from taxes for fifteen years had been agreed to, likewise to furnish tools and materials for their building houses on the lands granted to them to the amount of 1650*l.* currency. Governor Ord, in his letter to Governor Tonin, on this occasion, mentions, that he cannot recommend to these new settlers the cultivation of the sugar cane, as requiring too large a capital; that indigo does not thrive there, and

they have too much wet for cotton; but those who have begun on a moderate plan with coffee and provisions, have in general found their expectation fully answered.

The last packet has brought advice that the French have ceded to the Swedes the Leeward-Island of St. Bartholomew, and that the latter has declared the same to be a free port; in consequence of which they expected it would very soon rival both St. Eustatius and St. Thomas's, being much more conveniently situated, and having a better harbour than either of the others.

EAST-INDIES.

THE most material news from this country is the arrival of Mr. Hastings. He left Bengal on the 9th of February, and arrived at Plymouth on the 14th inst. No man's public conduct has ever been the subject of higher eulogium or more pointed animadversion. The accusers and the accused may now be confronted; and although we do not expect ever to see a governor-general of India brought to justice, however atrocious his misconduct may have been, we think it incumbent on his enemies to maintain the ground they have so long occupied, and on him not to shrink from enquiry, or skulk behind the broad shield of ministerial influence.

The cargoes arrived on account of the East-India Company this year, and those now on the seas, and daily expected to arrive, are valued at upwards of eight millions of pounds sterling.

On a calculation, lately made, it appears, that the several powers of Europe employ in the trade to the Oriental continent, about 160 sail of ships, carrying from 14,000 to 15,000 seamen. Of these sixty-five ships, or thereabouts, return to Europe from India annually. The British Company employ fifty-four ships, and about sixteen return each year. The Dutch Company about forty ships, of which thirteen return annually. The Danes eleven, of which five return. The Swedes eleven, of which four return. The Portuguese eight, of which four return. The Imperial Company seven, of which three or four return. Prussia five, of which two have returned. The Italian powers twelve, of which five return. Spain return two every year, and France since the peace fourteen, of which seven have returned. The Americans have had one ship arrived at New-York since their independence.—This is a pretty accurate state of the European commerce to India.

AMERICA.

Charles-Town, March 24.

THE Assembly breaks up this day. The Senate and House of Representatives did not draw well together this session. The latter was remarked for its moderation; and it would be injustice not to add, that they scouted every idea of suspending the operation of law in cases of debt, of making indents a legal tender, or of emitting more paper money.

New-York, April 5. The week previous to the last, the senate of this place, by a majority of two votes only, rejected the bill for granting the impost agreeable to the recommendation of Congress

Congress, although the same had been acceded to, as we are informed, by eleven states of the union. An event, so extraordinary and unexpected, has occasioned the most alarming apprehensions, not only among the public creditors, but in the minds of those who are disinterested friends to the independence and national honour of this country. In consequence of a public notification, a very numerous and respectable meeting was held at the coffee-house last Thursday evening, to consult about the measures proper to be adopted at so interesting a crisis, when it was unanimously agreed to, that thirteen gentlemen should be chosen as a committee to prepare a remonstrance to the legislature upon the subject; and also an address to the inhabitants of the other counties of the state, inviting them to unite in such measures as shall appear most proper and effectual to recover and establish the public faith and credit; to obtain justice to the numerous distressed citizens in every part of the state, who have so liberally furnished the public with their money, property, and services, in times of the greatest hazard and danger, and by means of whose patriotic exertions, government has been enabled to maintain a long and expensive war, which has terminated in the independency of the United States.

Boston, April 18. Friday last, about five o'clock, P. M. the merchants, traders, and many other gentlemen of the town met at Col. Mariton's long room, to consider what discouragement should be given to the British factors who were residing here, and monopolizing to themselves the benefit of commerce, when they unanimously came to the following resolution, viz.

"Whereas, no commercial treaty is at present established between these United States and Great-Britain; and whereas certain British merchants, factors, and agents from England, are now residing in this town, who have received large quantities of English goods, and are in expectation of receiving further supplies, imported in British bottoms, or otherwise, greatly to the hinderance of freight in all American vessels; and as many more such persons are daily expected to arrive among us, which threatens an entire monopoly of all British importations in the hands of all such merchants, agents, or factors, which cannot but operate to the essential prejudice of the interests of this country."

Therefore to prevent, as far as possible, the evil tendency of such persons continuing among them (excepting those of them who shall be approved by the select men) and to discourage the sale of their merchandize, they agreed to several votes not to purchase any goods for the future of any British merchants, factors, &c. and to recommend it to Congress to make laws for that purpose.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

WAR between the Emperor and the Dutch seems every day less probable. At present nothing but peace is talked of, but on terms that cannot fail to be mortifying to the latter. The negotiation appears to be entirely in the hands of the French minister, who will

not conciliate matters without an eye to his master's interest. The republic is now actually reaping the fruits of that eager and faithless avidity for gain, which has always inclined it to pursue what appeared to be immediately for its own advantage without the least regard for its ancient allies, or consideration for its future safety.

Translation of a letter from the Comte de Mercy, the Imperial ambassador at Paris, to the Count de Vergennes, the French minister for foreign affairs.

My Lord,

Paris, May 30, 1785.

I have received the letter with which your Excellency this day honoured me, and in which you have been pleased to communicate to me the subject of the conference you yesterday had with the ambassadors of Holland. If the States-General mean by marks of hostility any actual aggression, the Emperor has given a positive declaration, that none shall be made by him during the course of the negotiations now begun; but his Majesty did not nor could not mean by that to restrict himself from taking measures purely preparatory, and which cannot take effect except only in case the negotiations, the basis of which is known, and has been made public, should be entirely broken off. I hope that your Excellency will find this explanation to be entirely conformable to what the Emperor wrote to the King on this subject, in the same manner as they correspond with the contents of the note the ambassadors of Holland remitted to you March 25, and which you were pleased to transmit to me April 2. I therefore entreat your Excellency to renew with this limitation to the Dutch ambassadors the assurance they appear to desire. It is a disagreeable circumstance, that considering the precise manner in which the Emperor has explained himself, and which certainly deserved full relief, any doubt should have been entertained concerning it by the States-General, and that their High Mightinesses should thus have suffered themselves to be induced to retard so long the performance of the preliminary condition, to which themselves had consented, viz. sending their deputies to Vienna. I cannot avoid renewing to your Excellency the most pressing instances, that, by your representations, an end may be put to those delays, and that I may be enabled to renew with the Dutch ambassadors the conferences which have been interrupted by the conduct of their sovereigns. I am, &c.

(Signed)

MERCI D'ARGENTEAU.

Rome, April 6. The draining of the Pontine Marshes, for which the Pope has assigned considerable sums, is continued with steadfastness, and begins to be attended with success. The Appian Way has been discovered, which for several ages has lain buried under the waters, and covered with rushes and herbage. This great work will do honour to the present pontificate. Several Emperours, and three Pontiffs in succession, had attempted it without being able to terminate it. The Way, however, is now repaired, and lengthened in such a manner, as to facilitate commerce, and serve at the same time as an ornament to the province. His Holiness has erected convenient houses there, and given or-

ders that the course of the post shall be in future by way of the Mountain, to begin on the 15th of next month.

Vienna, April 20. An ordonnance has been published by his Majesty lately, consisting of twelve articles, by which his Majesty wishes to extend liberty more and more to all his subjects, by the general suppression of the laws of servitude in his dominions, and grants to every person, who wishes to pass from one part of his states to another, as into Bohemia, Austria, Gallicia, even the Austrian Netherlands, Lombardy, Tuscany, &c. the permission to change their habitations without being obliged to pay any sum whatever for the moveables they take with them, on any pretence whatever.

The Emperour has lately published a law, which it would be worthy of the wisdom of the British legislature to adopt: it declares, that in future no clergyman shall hold two benefices to which cure of souls is annexed, because it is impossible that they should duly attend to the duties of one, without neglecting the functions of the other; and so strictly is the law to be observed, that it is to extend even to bishops and prebendaries of the Metropolitan churches, so that those who had hitherto been permitted to hold several rectories which were served by curates, must now resign them all but one.

Lisbon, April 23. On Monday the 11th inst. the Count Fernan Nunes, the Spanish ambassador at this court, made his public entry, in order to have his audience of her most Faithful Majesty, the King, and the rest of the royal family, to demand the Portuguese Infanta Donna Marianna Victoria, to be given in marriage with the Infant Don Gabriel of Spain.

The following day the contract of marriage was signed at the Palace of Nossa Senhora de Adjuda, and in the afternoon the marriage ceremony was performed by the Patriarch at Lisbon. At night there were fireworks and a serenetta at court, to which the foreign ministers were invited.

On Wednesday the foreign ministers were admitted to pay their compliments to her Most Faithful Majesty and the royal family, and separately to the Portuguese Infanta. The evening concluded with a very splendid entertainment given by the Spanish ambassador, to which the foreign ministers and the Portuguese nobility were invited. The city was illuminated each of these three days.

Aranjuez, May 2. The Infanta Donna Charlotta set out for Portugal on Wednesday last, the 27th ult. and stopped the first night at Toledo, about four leagues from this place. Her Highness is to proceed by easy journeys, and will not arrive before the 10th or 12th day at Villaviciosa, where the court of Portugal at present resides, and where the exchange of the two princesses is now expected to take place, and not at Badajos (on the frontiers of Spain) as was originally intended. Her highness's suite exceeds 500 persons.

Petersburgh, May 13. The Empress has given orders for a new expedition, the object of which is to extend the discoveries already made by some navigators of this empire, the success of which cannot fail to add to geographical know-

ledge, and that of natural history. Lieutenant-Colonel Bleumer, who is charged with carrying it into execution, will embark, with some men of science, at the mouth of the River Anadir, and will sail to those latitudes where our navigators have discovered in lat. 64, some islands inhabited, in an advantageous situation, and where they established a trade for fur, some specimens of which have been already brought here. Lieut. Col. Bleumer will afterwards double the coast of Tschutski, descend by the strait which separates Siberia from America, and push as far as the 74th degree of latitude.

Copenhagen, May 14. An edict has been published here, declaring the opening of the new navigable canal, which connects the North Sea with the Baltic to all the nations of Europe for the term of six years. The tariff of duties to be paid for this passage will appear in about a fortnight.

Madrid, May 17. The ordinance relative to the new East-India Company is dated the 28th of last month; the fund of that Company is to be 30,000,000, of which the Caraccas Company, which is re-united to it, is to furnish nine, the King five, the Bank of Madrid three, and the inhabitants of the Philippine Islands a similar sum. The remaining 10,000,000 are to be divided into shares of 1000 livres each. The Company will be charged with the equipment of the merchant ships destined for Spanish America, where they will find the merchandize necessary for that country; and are to receive in exchange piastres, corn, and fruits, which they are to carry to the Philippines, where they will purchase the goods of India and China. The King permits to all nations the free entrance into all the ports of the Philippines. The Company will have there a council of administration; another is to be established at Manilla, and one at Madrid, with which the other two are to correspond.

Berlin, May 20. The interesting speech made by the Baron de Hersberg, minister of state at the last Assembly of the Academy, relative to population in general, and that of the Prussian estates in particular, has been published; by which it appears that he calculates the present population of the Prussian estates at six millions of souls; two millions of whom form the population of Silesia, Prussia, and East-Friesland. Before the accession of his present Majesty the estates under the Prussian domination contained only two millions of inhabitants; the increase of population is owing to the paternal care of the King, who has used his utmost to encourage agriculture, manufactures, and commerce.

According to authentic accounts the present population of Gothenburgh is estimated at 12,713 souls, viz. 3375 men, 2552 women, 142 old men, 380 old women, 219 boys, and 714 girls above 15 years of age, 1625 boys and 1447 girls under that age, 3241 domestics of both sexes, and 18 Jews.

MARRIAGES.

May **A**T Lisbon, the Hon. Robert Walpole, 10. his Britannick Majesty's envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary at the court

court of Portugal, to Miss Stert, eldest daughter of Richard Stert, Esq. merchant of the same place.—26. John Hopkins, of Millbank-street, Westminster, senior officer of his Majesty's Palace-court, aged 85, to Mrs. Mary Johnson, widow lady, of Carey-street, aged 90.—*June 2.* Edward Knatchbull, Esq. only son of Sir Edward Knatchbull, Bart. of Mersham-Hatch, in Kent, to Miss Frances Graham, second daughter of Governour Graham.—9. Sir James Graham, Bart. of Netherby, in the county of Cumberland, to the Right Hon. the Lady Katherine Stewart, eldest daughter of the Earl of Galloway.—14. The Hon. Richard Howard, secretary to her Majesty, and brother to the Earl of Effingham, to Miss March, daughter of John March, Esq. of Worsley-Park, Huntingdonshire.—Lately, at Edinburgh, Sir James Nasmyth, Bart. to Miss Eleanora Murray.—Lieutenant-General Joseph Gabbit, colonel of the 66th (or Berkshire) regiment of foot, to Mrs. Richmond, only daughter and heiress of the late Seymour Richmond, Esq.—The Hon. Frederick Robinson, brother to Lord Grantham, and member for Rippon, in Yorkshire, to Miss Harris, sister to Sir James Harris, his Majesty's ambassador at the Hague.

DEATHS.

May **A**T Edinburgh, the Rev. Dr. Miles 20. Cowper, one of the ministers of the episcopal chapel of that city, rector of Sulhamstead in Berkshire, and also of Cowley in Gloucestershire, and formerly president of the College of New-York.—24. Mr. William Woollet, engraver to his Majesty.—Robert Alsop, Esq. alderman of Bridge ward without, and father of the city. He served the office of sheriff in the year 1733, and on the death of Thomas Winterbottom, Esq. in the year 1752, was elected mayor for the remaining part of the year.—25. In the 79th year of his age, the Right Hon. Francis Godolphin, Lord Godolphin, governour of the Scilly Islands. He married first in February, 1734, Barbara, daughter of William Earl of Portland, which lady dying without issue in 1736, he married secondly, May 28, 1748, Anne, daughter of John Earl Fitzwilliam, and dying without issue, the title is extinct; but his estate will be divided between the Marquis of Caermarthen and Robert Godolphin Owen, Esq.—26. Richard Atkinson, Esq. member for New Romney, and alderman of the city, and one of the directors of the East-India Company.—29. Dr. Andrew Coltee Ducarel.—*June 6.* The Rev. Mr. Rawes, vicar of Chedworth, Gloucestershire.—9. The Right Hon. Earl Pomfret; he is succeeded in his title by his eldest son, Lord Leominster.—11. Aged 75, the Rev. Edward Baily, Dean of Ardferit, and Archdeacon of Dublin.—12. Aged 82, the Rev. Dr. George Wishart, one of the ministers of Edinburgh.—Lately, at Malta, in Switzerland, aged 92, Count Vandecope, of Belchelgen, a descendant of Bohemund, Prince of Apulia, who overthrew the Turks in the famous battle of Nice, a Count of the Roman empire, and formerly physician to the Empress Queen of Hungary. The title devolves to Dr. Cope, formerly of Baliol-college,

Oxon.—At St. Helena, Lieutenant Governour Major Henry Graeme.—The Rev. John Calthorp, for forty years vicar of Boston and Kinton, Prebendary of Lincoln, and in the commission of the peace for Holland in that county.

CIVIL PROMOTIONS.

From the Gazette

May **E**ARL Spenser to be high steward of 28. the borough of St. Alban's, in the county of Hertford.—*June 11.* The Right Hon. Francis Baron Osborne (commonly called Marquis of Caermarthen) to be governour of the Islands of Scilly.—18. The Earl of Uxbridge to be constable or keeper of the castle of Caernarvon, ranger of the forest of Snowdon, and steward of all his Majesty's lordships, manors, lands, and tenements, belonging to the late dissolved monastery of Bardsey, in the county of Caernarvon.

From the other Papers.

Thomas Skinner, Esq. chosen alderman of Queenhithe ward; William Curtis, Esq. alderman of Tower ward; and Benjamin Hammett, Esq. alderman of Portfoken ward.—John Hall, Esq. to be historical engraver to his Majesty.

ECCLESIASTICAL PREFERMENTS.

PRESENTATIONS.

THE Rev. Thomas Parker, jun. A. M. to the vicarage of Churcham, with the chapel of Bulley annexed.—The Rev. Mr. Jones, A. M. admitted a minor canon of Gloucester cathedral, on the resignation of the Rev. James Edwards, B. D.—The Rev. Sackville Austen to the rectory of West Wickham, in Kent, together with the rectory of Horsted Caines.—The Rev. Thomas Harvey, LL. B. to the rectory of Cowden, on the presentation of Mrs. Harvey.—The Rev. William Frederick Browne, A. M. rector of Launton, in Oxfordshire, to the prebend of Wanstrow, in the cathedral church of Wells.—The Rev. Thomas King, B. D. to the vicarage of Great Kimble, and the rectory of Great Hampden, in the county of Bucks.—The Rev. Charles Tahourdin to the rectory of Cornwell, in Oxfordshire.

DISPENSATIONS.

THE Rev. James Wiggeth, to hold the rectory of Crudewell, in the county of Wilts; together with the vicarage of Hackerton, in the same county.—The Rev. Edward Townsend, to hold the rectory of Henley-upon-Thames, together with the vicarage of Stukeley, in the county of Bucks.—The Rev. Thomas Booth, to hold the vicarage of Friskney, in the county of Lincoln, together with the rectory of Hellow, otherwise Bellow, with Aby, in the same county.—The Rev. Thomas Watson, A. M. chaplain to Lord Montfort, to hold the rectory of North Cheriton, with the rectory of Maperton, in the county of Somerset and diocese of Bath and Wells.

BANKRUPTS.

BANKRUPTS.

May **W**ILLIAM Greatrex, of Bisham, in Berks, timber-merchant. — John Robrahm, of Bishop Wearmouth, in the county of Durham, raft-merchant. — William Brumby, of Chapel Milton, in Derbyshire, dealer. — John Daniel Frederick Rueto, late of Liverpool, merchant. — Thomas Shittlewood, late of Newark-upon-Trent, in Nottingham, wharfinger. — Thomas Wright, of Field Burcot, in Northamptonshire, money-scrivener. — 24. James Evans, of Cleobury Mortimer, in Salop, builder. — Thomas Shayle, of Much Marcle, in Herefordshire, dealer. — Edward Young, of Bristol, corn-factor. — 28. Thomas Green, of Islington Back Road, St. James, Clerkenwell, smith, wheelwright, and dealer in coals. — John Copland, late of St. Martin's-lane, St. Martin in the Fields, wine and brandy merchant. — Henry Tash and William Roebuck, of Oxford, shopkeepers and partners. — William Stone, late of St. Catherine's, in the liberty of the Tower of London, grocer. — John Allingham, late of Holbourn, in St. Giles's, fadler. — Edward Brine, of Portsmouth, in Hants, brasier. — William Lewis, late of New Sarum, in Wilts, watchmaker. — James Bourne, Robert Lancaster, and David Davis, of Lancaster, merchants and copartners. — Thomas Hawes, of Ixworth, in Suffolk, grocer, draper, and tallow-chandler. — 31. William Bridge, of Tewkesbury, in Gloucestershire, currier. — Ralph Gee and Richard Amphlett, of Birmingham, buckle-makers, platers, and copartners. — John Golding, of East-street, Red-Lion-square, tailor. — David Taylor, of Lamb's Conduit-street, Red-Lion-square, merchant (partner with William Smyth and Thomas Thompson, of Madeira, under the stile and firm of Smyth, Taylor, and Co.) — Thomas Leaman, late of Exeter, draper. — Robert Pearce, of Lower East-Smithfield, rope-merchant. — **June** 4. Thomas Walshaw, of Pontefract, in Yorkshire, miller. — Thomas Francis, late of Alverstoke, in Hants, seedsman. — Francis Simpson, late of Whitwell, in Yorkshire, butter-factor. — George Grove, late of Aldingbourne, in Sussex, shopkeeper. — Peter Cook, late of Broad-street, St. Giles's, leather-feller. — John Smith, of Thumbly, in Oxfordshire, dealer. — Michael Craufaz, late of Old Compton-street, St. Anne, Soho, tobacconist. — 7. John Horsfall, the younger, of Manchester,

merchant. — John Evans, of Liverpool, merchant and victualler. — Thomas Hirst, of Norwich, linen-draper. — Henry Mear, of Birmingham, refiner. — John Atkinson, of St. Martin's-street, Leicester-Fields, coal-merchant. — 11. John Wyatt, of Oxford, bargemaster. — Henry Foster, late of Liverpool, brasier. — Robert Landor, of Liverpool, iron-merchant. — John King, of St. Neot's, in Huntingdonshire, draper and grocer. — Moses Geddings, John Twist, and John Gazel, all late of Blackman-street, Southwark, dealers and copartners. — Michael Bothomley, late of Old-street, St. Luke, but now of Gravel-lane, in Christ-Church, Surrey, warehouseman. — William Allen, of the Strand, St. Clement Danes, goldsmith and bucklemaker. — 14. Richard Ley, of the parish of Highweek, in Devonshire, tanner. — Augustine Postle, of Foulsham, in Norfolk, grocer. — Edward Pitt, of Wellington, in Somersetshire, woolstapler. — Thomas Barnes, of Fleet-street, London, stationer. — Robert Clark and Andrew Clark, both now or late of Blackburn, in Lancashire, linen-draper and copartners. — Joseph Warburton and Matthew Randall, of Coleman-street, London, merchants and copartners. — John Meggs, late of Tottenham-Court-Road, St. Pancras, broker and upholsterer. — 18. Richard Leggatt, late of Penton-Mewsey, in Hants, wool-stapler. — Stanton Collins, of Wartling, in Sussex, maltster. — Robert Johnston, of Tower-hill, London, merchant. — John Tysoe Reade, of Walthamstow, in Essex, but formerly of London, banker. — Thomas Allingham, of Lawrence-Pountney-lane, London, merchant. — Elisabeth Brown, late of Portsea, near Portsmouth, in Hants, widow, brewer. — 21. Peter Herbert, of Cowley, in Gloucestershire, dealer. — Thomas Evans, of John-street, in the Minories, London, money-scrivener. — Mary Jane, of Chepstow, in Monmouthshire, shopkeeper. — 25. George Chapman, of Loughborough, Leicestershire, linen-draper. — Thomas Cowper, late of Dufton, Westmoreland, dealer and chapman. — Jonathan May, of Brook-street, Hanover-square, taylor. — Horatio Kime, of Milford-lane, Strand, coal-merchant. — James Niven and Arthur Gibbons, late of Mahon, in the island of Minorca, but now of Abchurch-yard, merchants. — William Humphreys, of Rumsford, Essex, broker, appraiser, and auctioneer. — Charles Sladen, of Bristol, blockmaker.

Postscript.

WE take the earliest opportunity of laying before our readers the best information that we have as yet been able to collect concerning the unfortunate experiment of M. Pilatre du Rozier and M. Romain, the first victims to the science of aërostation:

Extract of a letter from a gentleman of Boulogne to Mr. Feëtor, at Dover, dated June 15.

"As you will naturally be curious to know the particulars of the unhappy fate of our two

aeronauts, who perished this morning, you may depend on the following, of which I was an eye-witness:

"At a quarter past seven they ascended, and for the first twenty minutes appeared to take the best possible direction; when, for a few seconds, they appeared stationary; then took a direction to the left, towards Portee; then a contrary direction; and at about three quarters of a mile's height the whole was in flames, from the

the fire of the cursed Montgolfier, and fell with incredible velocity on Huitmille Warren, where the two unfortunate adventurers were found instantly on their fall; Pilatre with his thighs both broke, and a violent contusion on his breast; he was dead before his descent apparently. Romain had both his legs broken, and most of his limbs disjointed, but breathed for some moments, and uttered the exclamation—Oh! Jesu, and instantly expired.

“Excuse me, the subject has so affected me that I can say no more. There were faggots and staves all round the gallery, and the fire actually blew about the gallery at the moment of their ascension. The whole scene lasted about fifty minutes.”

The following particulars are communicated by another hand:—“The machine which ascended with M. de Rozier and his companion, consisted of a balloon, filled with inflammable air, of a spherical form, thirty-seven feet in diameter; under this balloon a Montgolfier, or fire balloon was attached, of a cylindrical form, ten feet in diameter and twenty feet long—the gallery which suspended these unfortunate aeronauts, was attached to the net of the upper balloon, by a number of cords, which were fixed to a hoop of a diameter rather greater than the Montgolfier; from this hoop the cords descended in perpendicular lines to the wicker gallery, which supported them and the ballast, consisting of brush-wood, faggots, and staves of casks; within these perpendicular cords the Montgolfier was placed; it formed a moveable curtain, composed of a very light silk, lined with what is commonly termed *silver paper*. This kind of ballast was selected for the purpose of supporting the ascension as long as possible, by burning a small quantity at a time, to expel part of the atmospheric air from the air balloon, and by that means to gain levity, which was increased or diminished by raising or lowering the curtain. The greatest levity they were capable of obtaining, by this ingenious contrivance, which was M. Rozier’s invention, was equal to sixty pounds.

“We have great reason to believe, that the cause of the melancholy accident which happened to these gentlemen, was owing to the lower part of the fire balloon being pressed in towards the flames, by a current of air displaced by the ascension of the upper balloon, which returning to fill up the void below, produced the above effect, and which would probably have been prevented, if the Montgolfier had been situated on the outside of the cylindrical cords to which the gallery was suspended.”

Our readers will recollect that M. Pilatre de Rozier was the first who made the bold experiment of ascending into the air, and as he was distinguished by an eminent love of science, we trust the following account of his scientific life will not be unacceptable.

M. Pilatre de Rozier, the first unhappy victim to that science which he had so much improved, was about thirty years of age, of a good family, and great scientific acquirements. He was rather tall in his person, and remarkably well proportioned; his countenance beamed with that benignity, which was ratified by every action

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of his life; he seemed exempt from the little envy which so universally predominated in the human breast; but he was not void of that ambition which is inherent in us all; it was, however, directed to the noblest views, to the steep and rugged ascent of science, to the advantage and instruction of his fellow-creatures. This is not the adulatory tribute of a bigotted admirer, but the just eulogy of a disinterested friend, who had some opportunity of knowing the source of his actions.

M. De Rozier evinced a very early attachment to philosophical pursuits, and contributed considerably to that excellent periodical publication “Rozier’s Journal,” which was conducted by an Abbe of that name, a distant relation. His abilities as a physician or natural philosopher, had been long known and admired; but the most brilliant part of his career was reserved till that period when Messrs. De Montgolfier made the astonishing discovery of elevating heavy bodies into the atmosphere, by rarifying the external air, and inclosing it in an *envelope* of sufficient capacity.

The first machine that ascended with human beings into the hitherto unexplored regions of air, was sent up under the direction of M. Pilatre de Rozier; the zeal of the Dukes de Polignac, the governors to the royal offspring of France, had no small share in the institution of this celebrated experiment.

On the 21st of November, 1783, at fifty-four minutes past one, this unfortunate gentleman and the Marquis D’Arlandes, ascended in a fire-balloon from the Chateau de la Muette at Paris. When the machine had attained the height of about 250 feet, the intrepid voyagers waved their hats to the spectators, who were agitated with the mingled sensation of fear and astonishment. The aerial navigators were soon out of sight, but the machine itself floating horizontally, and displaying a most beautiful appearance, ascended to the height of three thousand feet, and still remained visible; it was waited over the Seine, near the gate of *la Conferencé*, and passing between the *Ecole Militaire* and the *Hotel des Invalides*, was clearly distinguished by the whole city of Paris. After having been in the air for twenty-five minutes, they descended near the mill of *Croulebarbe*, in the vicinity of the new *Boulevard*, in short, without having experienced the least inconvenience, and having yet in the gallery two thirds of their fuel, so that without any difficulty they might have made a journey of three times the extent. The machine in which this voyage was made was seventy feet in height by forty-six in diameter; it contained sixty thousand cubic feet of air, and was capable of elevating sixteen or seventeen hundred weight.

M. de Rozier’s next ascent was from Lyons, in the enormous machine, constructed by the elder M. Montgolfier; its two surfaces were composed of cloth, with three layers of paper between them; it was one hundred and thirty-six feet in height, by one hundred and ten in diameter, and was called the *Fleisselles*, in compliment to the Intendant of that city. The 19th of January, 1784, was the day appointed for its

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ascension,

ascension, and it was agreed to limit the number of travellers to six, although the machine had sufficient power to elevate eight thousand pounds, including its own weight, but as from its amazing size, it was necessarily fabricated in the open air, and had suffered very much from being exposed to frost, snow, and rain, it was determined not to endanger an accident by encumbering it with too many passengers, especially as in many parts it was pierced by the vicissitudes of the weather. Can it be believed, that under these circumstances, a seventh person should jump into the gallery at the very instant of cutting the cords; yet such was the fact; the experiment lasted fifty minutes, seventeen of which were occupied in inflating it with rarefied air; its power was much beyond the calculation, for it raised fifteen thousand six hundred weight to the height of three thousand one hundred and thirty-two feet; it contained one hundred and forty-five thousand cubic feet of heated air, produced by the combustion of five hundred weight of elderwood. M. de Rozier did not simply ascend in this machine, he had superintended its construction, and exhibited considerable skill and activity in the whole process; the command of it was given to him, and the success depended not a little on his exertions.

We now come to that remarkable experiment made at Versailles on the 23d of June, 1784, in the presence of the King of Sweden, and the court of France. M. Proust accompanied M. de Rozier in this voyage; a perfect storm came on at the very moment of their ascension, but as the Swedish monarch was on the eve of leaving France, the experiment could not be deferred. The balloon was inflated with rarefied air in eight minutes, and M. de Rozier, who was occupied in some arrangements on the outside of the machine, was near being left behind, for the cords were already cut, and the Montgolfier on the point of rising, when by a timely exertion he leaped into the gallery, and the whole apparatus ascended in a beautiful and majestic manner. The wind blowing with great violence, the balloon was carried along with incredible rapidity, and after a voyage of forty-seven minutes, descended in the domains of the Prince de Conde, about forty-nine miles from the place of its departure. The prince entertained them with the greatest elegance, and after supper presented a plan of his estate, in which the particular spot where they had descended was marked *Place de Rozier*.

M. de Rozier having been so peculiarly successful in all his experiments, drew upon him the particular attention of the King: he was desirous of being the first to cross the ocean, as he had been the first to ascend; his wish was no sooner suggested, than the Comptroller-General was ordered to disburse the money necessary for the construction of such a machine as M. de Rozier desired, and the whole management of it was left to him with the greatest liberality. This balloon was constructed by two brothers of the name of Romain, who undertook the fabrication of it on condition of accompanying him across the channel. The event of that experiment we will not repeat, it is a subject too melancholy to dwell upon.

When Blanchard made his memorable voyage from Dover Castle into France, the honour of being the first aerial mariner was thus anticipated, and M. de Rozier wished to abandon the experiment. He accompanied his successful rival to Paris, introduced him to the most respectable and exalted characters, and deputed himself towards him, not with the narrow jealousy of an envious mind, but with the sincerity and zeal of an admiring friend. M. de Rozier, on his arrival at Paris, waited on M. de Calonne, the Comptroller-General, to ask his opinion with respect to the pursuit of the projected experiment. — That gentleman desired him to use his own discretion, but requested him to recollect that government had been at a considerable expence on account of it. This, to a man of M. de Rozier's honourable sensations was a command, he again returned to Boulogne, and after waiting for a favourable opportunity to accomplish his purpose, met with that terrible catastrophe which snatched from science one of its brightest ornaments.

Mr. de Rozier was *en Chef*, or principal of a modern establishment at Paris, called *Le Premier Musée*, founded under the auspices of Monsieur, the King's eldest brother; this Museum was instituted on a plan something similar to our Gresham College, on its original foundation, but was much more extensive in its views. The different European languages were taught in this seminary, and lectures delivered on every branch of science by the most eminent professors.

After his passage into this country he was to have been married to an English lady of a respectable family, and proposed to reside here for three months every year. The poignancy of her distress must be severe indeed, for he was endowed with those social and endearing qualities, which as they made him a valuable member of society in general, would have rendered the conjugal state particularly happy.

When this enterprising genius returned to Versailles from his aerial expedition on the 24th of June 1784, he received the highest compliments from the court and nobility of France. The Comte d'Artois desired he would place a balloon upon his arms for a crest, and presented him with 100 louis d'ors. The Duke de Chartres made him a present of the same sum, and requested De Rozier would suffer him to add a motto to the Comte's crest; which the balloonist readily acquiescing in, the Duke repeated the following apposite sentence from Horace:

Udam

Spem hunc, fugiente penna!

M. Rozier took his flight from Boulogne sur Mer on the 15th inst. at ten minutes past seven in the morning, and in addition to the above, we are enabled to add, that the balloon was 133 feet in diameter, made of a kind of taffeta, of a green ground, on which were painted the figures of admiration and ambition, holding a medallion, on which were these words, *COLLONNE DE L'ART ET DE L'INDUSTRIE*. Underneath, on a kind of wave, was inscribed the names of the two adventurers, viz. Mons. Pilatre de Rozier, and Mons. Romaine.

The balloon was covered by a net with different cords, fastened to a kind of wicker basket that held a small iron pot full of some combusti-

bles, which were set fire to on their departure; this was called the Montgolfier. From this hung a green silk curtain, underneath which, fastened in the same manner, was hung the gallery in which the aerial travellers were. This was also made of wicker, covered with a kind of silk painted with different devices (for the cords of the gallery were tied) the French and English colours, which were trimmed round with a neat gold fringe. In the gallery were bladders, cork jackets, small faggots, straw, gingerbread cakes, brandy, &c. &c.

The following account, different in some respects from the former, is extracted from a letter written by an eye witness, a few hours after the fatal accident happened:

"Influenced by the painful sensation I now experience, my trembling hand can hardly find strength enough to pen down the particulars of an accident which hath filled every breast with horror and dismay.


"For three or four days past the wind had unfortunately proved favourable, I say *unfortunately*, as M. Pilatre de Rozier was the more confirmed in the resolution of fulfilling his imprudent promise, which the bitterness of sarcasm and the reflections cast on his want of courage too forcibly provoked him to attempt. At last, the balloon was one third filled up, when the mariners, appointed to pronounce on the state of the wind, declared it was unfavourable. The proceedings were deferred till midnight, when the wind blowing rather fresh from the south-east, fine weather, and a clear sky, seemed to announce the finest morn.

"Though the balloon was incontestibly the largest ever made with gummed lustring, yet by the ingenious contrivance of its owner, it was completely ready in less than four hours. At seven this morning the signal of two guns being fired, announced the long expected departure. The adventurers, with most placid countenances, were seated in the car, and rose majestically in the sight of a numerous concourse of people, whose very features were expressive of joy, not divested of anxious solicitude. The machine was soon descried to hover over the sea, but in the space of less than twenty minutes, it was observed by a retrograde motion to make back for

the land; all eyes were fixed on the grand spectacle, when on a sudden a thick cloud of smoke was observed to issue from the upper part of the balloon; the latter bursting instantly, the other parts of the apparatus were observed to fall towards the earth with the utmost velocity. It would be impossible for me to describe the successive emotions of pity and horror that distorted, as it were, the features of every one present; suffice it to say, that a peasant who stood on the spot where the dreadful fall was effected, tells us that he witnessed the last groan of the two ill-fated aeronauts. I myself went to the place within a little more than a mile and a half from this town, opposite to the tower of Croui, near the sea, and was there informed of the lamentable end of the two men, who deserved a better fate."

On the 23d inst. Mr. Decker ascended a second time in his balloon from Quantrell's Gardens in Norwich. In this voyage it was intended that Miss Weller should accompany him, but after a considerable loss of time in endeavouring to give the aerial vehicle a sufficient ascensional power, the lady had the mortification of a second disappointment. Mr. Decker left the garden five minutes after three o'clock, by his own watch, with about forty pounds of ballast in the car. The wind had been north the whole morning, varying occasionally a point to the east or the west, and the direction the balloon took was over Lakenham, Armineland, Stoke, &c. for about six minutes it gradually moved forwards and very obliquely, seeming, in the most gentle manner, to glide over the fields, trees, and houses underneath, and being, during this time, most distinctly seen by the crowds who filled all the neighbouring eminences, and who several times heard Mr. Decker speak with the trumpet; when he had passed over Lakenham, he rose more rapidly, and in a less oblique direction.

He descended at Topcroft about twelve miles from Norwich, in a field belonging to Mr. Bond of that place; the time by his watch being ten minutes before four, so that the voyage was performed exactly in three quarters of an hour.

 THE proprietors of the London Magazine beg leave to return their sincere and grateful thanks to the public in general, and to their readers in particular, for the kind and generous patronage with which, for so long a course of years, their work has been honoured. At the same time, they beg leave to inform them, that THIS NUMBER will be the LAST which they mean to publish. To state their motives for declining the continuation of this Magazine is by no means necessary.—If they have succeeded in their endeavours to unite amusement with instruction, if they have in the smallest degree smoothed the road to knowledge and science, they will remain satisfied with the pleasing thought that their labours have acquired a reward which will bestow a more durable satisfaction than the splendid triumphs of the hero, or the verdant laurels of the poet!—Animated with this idea, they conclude—and only add, VOS VALETE ET PLAUDITE,

PRICES of STOCKS, &c. in JUNE, 1785.

Compiled by C. DOMVILLE, Stock-Broker, No. 95, Cornhill.

Day	Bank Stock.	3 per C reduced	3 per C consols.	4 per C consols.	5 per C.	Long Ann.	Short Ann.	India Stock	India Ann.	India Bonds 4 P.	S. Sea Stock	Old Ann.	New Ann.	Navy Bills.	Exch. Bills.	Wind Deal	Weath. London
27	117½	57 ½	57 ½	73 ½	91 ½	17 ½	12 ½			4 P. I		56½	56½	7½		NW	Rain
28		57	57	73	91	17 ½	12 ½									NW	
29	Sunday															N	
30	Holiday															NE	
31	116½	57 ½	57 ½	73 ½	91 ½	17 ½	12 ½			I	66½	55½		7½		NE	
1	116½	56	57 ½	73	91	17 ½	12 ½			Par		55½	56½	7½		NE	
2	116½	56	57 ½	73	91	17 ½	12 ½		55½	Par		55½		7½		NE	
3	116½	56	57 ½	73	91	17 ½	12 ½			Par				7½		NE	
4	Holiday															NE	Fair
5	Sunday															E	Rain
6		56	57 ½	73	91	17 ½	12 ½		53	Par		55½	56½	7½		SE	Fair
7	116½	57	57 ½	73	91	17 ½	12 ½			Par				7½		SW	Rain
8	116½	57	57 ½	73	92	17 ½	12 ½	133½	53½	Par			56½	7½		SW	
9	117	57	57 ½	73	92	17 ½				Par				7½		SW	
10		57	57 ½	73	91				53½	Par						SW	Fine
11	Holiday															SE	
12	Sunday											56½	56½		6 P.	NW	
13	117½	57	57 ½	73	91			134½		2 P.						NW	
14	117	57	57 ½	73	91			135	53½	2		56½	57½	7½	5	NW	
15		57	57 ½	73	91			135½		2						SW	Rain
16	117½	57	57 ½	73	91			135½		2						NE	Fair
17		57	57 ½	73	91					3 P.			57½	7½		NE	
18	117½	57	57 ½	74	91					3						N	
19	Sunday															N	
20		57	57 ½	74	92			135½	53½	3		56½	57½	7½	4	NE	
21	117½	57	57 ½	74	91					3		57		7½	4	S	
22		57	57 ½	73	91					4		56½				SW	
23	118½	57	57 ½	73	91					4						SW	
24	Holiday															SW	
25		57	57 ½	74	91				4					7½	3	SW	
26																	

N. B. In the 3 per Cent Consols. the highest and lowest Price of each Day is given; in the other Stocks the highest Price only.

I N D E X E S

TO THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS IN THE FOURTH VOLUME OF *THE LONDON MAGAZINE, ENLARGED AND IMPROVED.*

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